



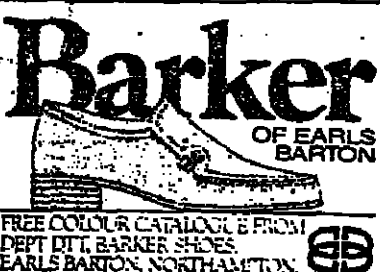
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'ENEMIES OF DEMOCRACY' CONDEMNED

Thatcher attacks 'conspirators'

By JAMES WIGHTMAN Political Correspondent

THE Prime Minister declared last night that Britain faced a new threat to democracy from minorities trying to force the majority into changes in the political process and the rule of law.

Addressing a Conservative audience in the Carlton club she said: "At one end of the spectrum are the terrorist gangs within our borders, and the terrorist states which finance and arm them.

"At the other end are the 'Hard Left' operating inside our system, conspiring to use union power and the apparatus of local government to break, defy and subvert the laws."

Mrs Thatcher also stated that there were 22 new campaigning groups, run by professionals who move from campaign to campaign.

"Some were in the trade unions—some even in parts of the system of Government itself—who have seen how our democracy has evolved rules to temper the power of the majority and provide safeguards and rights for the minority."

The Prime Minister was not specific, but those she had in her sights included the IRA, the Libyans and their support for international terrorism, the miners' strike leaders and the more Left-wing Labour MPs and local councillors.

She made it clear that she would tackle the dangers more aggressively than through the "consensus politics" often advocated by her critics, including Tory "wets."

'Heart of our country is strong'

She was delivering the second Carlton Lecture two years after Mr Macmillan, now the Earl of Stockton, delivered the first, and she chose as her theme "Why Democracy Works."

She said she had first toyed with the title "Democracy Under Threat," adding: "Because there are, as we know, enemies of democracy both within and without."

"But that would have been too pessimistic a title, because the defenders of democracy are far the more numerous."

"The overwhelming majority of the British people are democrats. Britain's democratic institutions are resilient, and the heart of our country is strong."

Recalling that it was Mr Macmillan who gave her the first Ministerial job in 1961 and that, some 20 years later, it was she who had recommended him for his earldom, she said that he still showed "the brilliance, wit and understanding" which he has always shown.

That was her answer to those who interpreted Lord Stockton's recent maiden speech in the Lords—and a similar speech by Mr Walker, Energy Secretary,

THE drift back to work continued in the coal industry yesterday, with 975 ex-strikers reporting for the first time, despite the fact that in most areas the lure of enhanced pre-Christmas pay packets no longer applied.

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Scargill blamed for 'savagery'

By NICHOLAS COMFORT Political Staff

MR BRITTON, Home Secretary, last night charged Mr Arthur Scargill with moral responsibility for acts of "loathsome savagery" against members of his union who had gone back to work.

He delivered his attack on the miners' president—the most outspoken of a Minister since the coal strike began in March—after reporting to Mrs Thatcher and senior colleagues on weekend violence against working miners and their homes.

As each day passes, Mr Scargill, believed, plumbs new depths, Mr Britton told a

Other pit news & picture
—P2;
Parliament—P14;
Cartoon—P21

Conservative by-election meeting at Southgate, North London.

He single-mindedly refuses to restrain his followers from violence against the police, working miners and their families; and he consistently refuses to condemn it when it occurs," Mr Britton went on.

"This shameful silence is more than just inertia; it goes beyond a craven washing of the hands."

"For it shows all the world with crystal clarity where the moral responsibility for violence lies."

"The whole nation was profoundly shocked by the cowardly and brutal attack on a working miner in West Yorkshire last Friday—or rather the whole nation except Mr Scargill," said the Home Secretary.

"Mr Scargill finally brought himself to condemn arson against empty property. But it seems to stick in his throat to condemn an act of loathsome savagery against someone."

Continued on Back P, Col 3

OIL DEMAND INCREASED BY COAL STRIKE

By Our Business Correspondent

The miners' strike has added up to a million barrels a day, equivalent to 50 million tonnes a year, to world oil demand, it was claimed yesterday. But the huge increase in consumption of heavy oil at power stations has added to pressure on the Organisation of Petroleum-Exporting Countries to cut the price of light oil.

The extra demand is equivalent to about six per cent of total Opec output. Power stations are burning about 500,000 barrels of fuel a day ten times the normal level, according to PETROLEUM INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY, the oil industry newsletter.

The difference between buying coal and the equivalent amount of oil is costing the Central Electricity Generating Board £35,000,000 a week.

City report—P23

BRITAIN 'TOP OIL SUPPLIER'

Britain has overtaken Saudi Arabia as France's largest crude oil supplier, say the monthly PETROLEUM INDUSTRY BULLETIN.

In the year to the end of September, Britain shipped France 11.2 million tonnes of crude, almost 50 per cent up on the same period last year, to a 15.9 per cent share of the market.

TV UNION CALLS OFF STRIKE

By Our TV Correspondent

The TV technicians' union, the ACTT, has called off its threatened TV strike, due to start on Dec. 1, after members rejected the strike call by five to one.

It has now decided to accept the ITV companies' final offer of an 8 per cent increase backdated to July. The union had been seeking 12 per cent. Average annual earnings of ITV technicians are £18,000.

KINNOCK PLEDGE

By Our Moscow Correspondent

Mr Kinnock, the Labour leader, said in Moscow yesterday that he stood on the coal strike when he appears at a rally with Mr Scargill, the miners' president, at Stoke next Friday.

Editorial Comment—P20

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A dejected Kim Hughes hurrying from the Brisbane cricket ground yesterday when he resigned the Australian captaincy after his team had been trounced by the West Indies.

£200,000 contempt fine for TGWU

By TERENCE SHAW Legal Correspondent

THE country's largest union, the Transport and General Workers, faces sequestration of all its assets if it fails to pay within 14 days a £200,000 contempt of court fine imposed in the High Court yesterday.

Imposing the fine for defying court orders to call off the Austin Rover strike—which petered out last week—Mr Justice Hodgson described the union's stance of "one of the worst cases of disobedience of orders of this court that there can ever have been."

If ever disobedience of court orders could be called "contumacious," it was the actions of this union, said the judge after he had been told that the union had decided that it would not abide by court orders or pay any fines imposed.

If the orders of the courts of law in this country are not obeyed, the only result is an approach to anarchy," added the judge.

Same fine

The fine of £200,000 is the same as that imposed on the National Union of Mineworkers last month for defying court orders by continuing to declare the miners' strike in Yorkshire official and threatening disciplinary action against members who crossed picket lines.

Like the NUM, the Transport Union was given 14 days to pay the fine.

If not paid by then, it faces further court proceedings in which the court will be asked to give leave for a writ of sequestration to be issued under which its assets would be seized and frozen until it had purged its contempt.

The Transport union was fined for defying court orders obtained by Austin Rover on Nov. 6 requiring it to lift its strike call at the company's plants until it had been approved by a secret ballot as required under the 1984 Trade Union Act.

With five other unions the Transport union was also ordered not to "induce, per-

Continued on Back P, Col 3

SKYJACKERS EXTEND THREAT

By Our Staff Correspondent

Skyjacking threatening to blow up a Somali airliner with more than 100 people on board at Addis Ababa airport again extended their deadline last night after nearly 60 hours on the runway.

The hijackers, who are demanding the release of 20 political prisoners in Somalia, put no time limit on the extension, raising hopes that negotiations with Ethiopian officials might be successful.

HUGHES WEEPS AS HE QUILTS

By COLIN GIBSON Sports Correspondent

KIM HUGHES broke down and wept yesterday as he announced his resignation as captain of Australia's cricket team following a crushing defeat by the West Indies in the Second Test at Brisbane.

Hughes, who was severely criticised for his handling of the side in the First Test which Australia lost by an innings, decided to step down after the West Indies won the second match by eight wickets.

With former players like Ian Chappell and Rodney Marsh, the Australian Press and public, who regard cricket deities as a national insult, turning against him Hughes decided to end his five-year flirtation with the captaincy.

He called a Press conference and in front of a mass of television cameras and microphones only managed three sentences before becoming overwhelmed. He tried several times to carry on but eventually stumbled from the room.

Four out of 28

He blamed his resignation on the pressure generated by "the constant speculation, criticism and innuendo by former players and sections of the media over the last four or five years which have now taken their toll."

Hughes has captained Australia 28 times but has only won four matches. He has been on the beaten side in the last five Tests—all against the West Indies.

He was never more than a stop-gap captain until last year when Greg Chappell first agreed to play for Australia purely as a batsman and then finally retired.

Mr Fred Bennett, Australian Cricket Board chairman, said later: "It is our hope that he continues to play and to enjoy his cricket for Australia in future. I specifically wish Kim Hughes well during the remaining games against the West Indies."

Alan Shiell—P23

E.E.C. FINES PRICE FIXING FIRMS £5m

By Our Brussels Correspondent

Five European chemical firms, including Laporte Industries of Britain, have been fined a record £5.4 million by the Common Market Commission for illegal fixing of prices and market shares within the E.E.C.

Laporte, which has plants in Leeds and Warrington, has been ordered to pay £1.2 million for its alleged part in a 14-year agreement to carve up the European market for hydrogen peroxide, an important ingredient in washing powders and industrial bleaches.

The other firms involved are Solvay, of West Germany, Degussa, of Belgium and Germany, and two French companies, Air Liquide and Atochem.

TRIBUNE MPs THREATEN HAVOC

By Our Political Staff

The Tribune group of Left-wing Labour MPs last night decided to keep up their momentum in the Commons following last week's demonstration.

They intend to wreak havoc by disrupting Parliamentary business, working to the rule-book and using standing orders to obstruct the Government.

They also decided to hold nationwide rallies to attack, in particular, the Government's local government policy. The first will be next March in Preston.

BENEFITS VOTE

By Our Political Correspondent

After an emergency three-hour debate on changes of benefits affecting miners and other strikers, the Government won a division by 279-185 last night, a majority of 94.

Commons Sketch—Back Page

Today's Weather

GENERAL SITUATION: V stroke S. to S.W. airstream will persist, frontal troughs crossing all areas.

LONDON, S.E. & CEN. S. ENGLAND, E. ANGLES, E. MIDLANDS: Rain in evening. Winds S. fresh, increasing strong, perhaps gale later. Max. 54F (12C).

E. & S.W. ENGLAND, W. MIDLANDS: Outbreaks of rain, heavy at times, clearing later. Winds S. strong to gale. 54F (12C).

Wales: Rain, heavy at times. Brighter later, showers. Winds S. gale, storm force in places at first, moderating slowly. 54F (12C).

S. NORTH SEA, STRAIT OF DOVER, ENCL. CH. (E.): Winds S. 6-7 to 10, increasing 10 at times. Sea rough.

St. George's Ch., Irish Sea: S. 8 to 10, veering 6-7, occasionally 9 to 10.

OUTLOOK: Showers, heavy in places, sunny spells, windy. Weather Maps—P20.

Soviet nuclear 'safety offer' to Kinnock

By NIGEL WADE in Moscow

PRESIDENT CHERNENKO promised Mr Kinnock yesterday that Russia would not make Britain a nuclear target if Labour stripped the country of its nuclear defences.

Russia would "reduce and dismantle" missiles from its own medium-range forces in Europe, equivalent to the number scrapped by a Labour Government in Britain, the Kremlin leader said.

in the total for its promised reciprocal cuts.

Mr Kinnock told newsmen he found Mr Chernenko's offer of new thinking was required on arms control. He said Mr Chernenko, 73, wanted a fresh start, without preconditions and recognising that medium and long-range missiles cannot be dealt with in separate negotiations.

The Labour leader said Mr Chernenko displayed "a strong commitment to try to build a regular and constructive relationship with the United States" from the exploratory talks between the countries' Foreign Ministers in Geneva next January.

Mr Chernenko was hailing the "responsible approach" of the Labour party.

"Implementation of complete nuclear disarmament by Britain with liquidation of nuclear foreign bases would create the conditions under which the Soviet Union would guarantee that its nuclear weapons would not be targeted on British territory," said Mr Chernenko, according to a Tass news agency report to be published by Pravda today.

Mr Denis Healey, Labour's Foreign Affairs spokesman, who accompanied Mr Kinnock at the Kremlin meeting with Mr Chernenko, lasting one and three-quarter hours, told newsmen the Russian undertakings were "absolutely specific and from their point of view totally committing."

But neither Mr Kinnock nor Mr Healey was specific when asked how the promised reciprocal cuts in Soviet rocket forces could be verified or why Moscow should be expected to make good its promise, since Labour is unilaterally pledged to scrap Britain's nuclear deterrent force and close American nuclear bases on British soil.

Mr Healey acknowledged that Britain had offered several other countries, around the Mediterranean and Scandinavia, immunity from nuclear attack if they declared themselves free of nuclear weapons.

The Russian offer of reciprocal cuts in missile forces was a new element in the case of Britain, he said.

Strong doubts

But even this is not a wholly new tactic, since Russian offers to Nordic countries of a Baltic nuclear-free zone have carried unspecified assurances that, in return, Moscow would study possible "substantial measures" to lower its nuclear profile in surrounding Soviet territory.

Scandinavian countries have expressed strong doubts about the verification of any such agreement.

Mr Chernenko made plain that a deal with Britain would depend on Labour implementing its pledge in renounce nuclear weapons, "work of its own and foreign makes."

Mr Healey indicated he understood Moscow would count the number of American cruise missiles removed from Britain.

Raison in Ethiopia—P4

200,000 FLEE TO FIND FOOD

By Our Diplomatic Staff

Thousands are abandoning their homes in Chad in search of food during what ought to be harvest time. "Chad is witnessing the worst drought in living memory," says Dr Djibril Diallo, United Nations regional information officer for Africa.

Dr Diallo, speaking in London, said at least 200,000 people had left their homes seeking food to converge on towns. He knew of 1,200 people who had already died of hunger.

Making mountains out of hole-hills



"When you're next savouring the scenic delights of continental Europe," observed our M.D., "climbing the majestic Butter Mountains or relaxing by the unfathomable Wine Lakes, keep your eyes open for a lesser-known Common Market folly: the Hole Mountain."

"It's a monumental scandal which the authorities are desperately trying to hide. The real culprits are my Auto-Feed Drills, which are making so many holes so quickly all over Europe that the mountain continues to grow at an alarming rate."

Various attempts have been made to reduce the stockpile—by stepping up Gruyere cheese production, for example—but we ourselves have come forward with the best solution so far: the Auto-Feed Screwdriver."

"This uses up existing holes by filling them with screws which are then tightened to a pre-set torque—completely automatically. It's a highly effective form of flexible low-cost automation, and makes much more sense than selling surplus holes at ridiculous knock-down prices to Russia."

Desoutter

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WIFE FIGHTS OFF MOB WITH RIFLE BUTT

By JOHN WILLIAMS

A WORKING miner's wife struck back when she and her family were besieged by an angry mob. She picked up an air rifle and felled one of them with a blow to the head.

Mrs Pat Head swung into her action when her son Tracy, 16, was punched in the eye by one of the gang of 20 attacking their home in Wellington Road, Edlington, South Yorkshire.

She picked up an unloaded air rifle and struck the man on the head with the butt.

Her husband, John, 40, in charge of shift maintenance at the nearby Yorkshire Main Colliery, had to have eight stitches in a wound after being hit over the head with a brick.

The family were attacked late on Sunday night following an evening visit to the local Royal British Legion Club.

Mrs Head said she had told her son to get the air rifle to frighten off the mob.

"The next minute Tracy was being held on the floor. I picked up the gun and cracked this man one."

Mrs Head said most of the gang were young striking miners. "They threatened to kill Tracy and they threatened to kill me."

Bully boy tactics
Mr Head, a member of the union COSA and not the NUM, said last night he went back to work last week but would not be returning.

A police spokesman said that several people were helping with inquiries and charges would be made.

The striker hit by Mrs Head was taken to hospital for treatment.

Although Mr Head will not be going to work, the Coal Board said attacks on miners and their homes was by and large proving counter-productive.

"We are now getting miners telephoning their managers asking to go back because they don't like these bully boy tactics," a spokesman added.

More cases of intimidation were reported as violence flared again in the Yorkshire area following the destruction of Mr Stuart Spencer's bungalow at Upton, near Pontefract, and a serious assault on another miner, Mr Michael Fletcher.

Militant strikers in the Yorkshire coalfield changed their tactics yesterday to what the Coal Board described as "insidious" methods to stop the drift back to work.

Relatives of miners who abandoned the strike have been confronted by gangs. In one incident the intimidation involved the 75-year-old parents of a working miner from Wheldale Colliery, Castleford, where Mr Spencer, whose home was destroyed by fire, is employed.

"The gang suggested to the couple that they should persuade their son not to go into work or they could be responsible for the consequences," said a Coal Board spokesman.

Workforce returns
In North Wales, Bersham Colliery yesterday produced its first coal in nine months after almost the whole workforce abandoned the strike.

The occasion was marked with a disclosure by the Coal Board that it is investing £2 million on a new seam which will be ready for working in two years.

It was also disclosed that Mr Raymond Ellis, chairman of the North Wales executive of the NUM, had also returned to work at Bersham.

"He feels that he must represent the men and the majority of those men are now back at work," said another union official.

Six men were arrested after a Cheshire police bus was blocked by a group of men near Markham Colliery, North Derbyshire.

11 on attack charges
ELEVEN striking miners charged concerning a pickaxe handle attack on Michael Fletcher, a working miner, at his Castleford home, appeared before Pontefract magistrates yesterday.

Six of the men were remanded in custody.

Two brothers, Nigel Hodgson, 23, and Martin David Hodgson, 20, of Grosvenor Street, Agbrigg, Wakefield, were charged jointly with causing grievous bodily harm and possessing offensive weapons.

Martin Hodgson was alleged to have carried a stiletto and his brother was alleged to have carried a stiletto and a short piece of wood used for ramming home explosive charges in coal faces. Both were remanded in custody until Friday.

The nine others were dealt with earlier by the magistrates. GARRY MILLWARD, 22, of



FORCED BACK ON STRIKE

Daily Telegraph Reporter

A KENT miner has gone back on strike after his aged mother collapsed when their home was attacked with bricks and other missiles.

Keith Prior's 75-year-old sick mother, Mabel, had to be revived by a doctor after the lounge window and glazed front door shattered in a late night attack at their home in Deal, Kent.

Kent police said yesterday that the attack on the Prior's home was only one of five such incidents in Deal on Sunday night.

Mr Prior, 44, a bachelor, who was one of the first men to return to work at Bettlesanger Colliery 12 weeks ago, said last night: "I went back to work because Scargill refused to allow us a ballot."

"But after this happened to my mother I cannot risk putting her life at stake. I have been forced back on strike against my will."

'We know nothing'
Mr Jack Collins, a Kent NUM official, said: "We know nothing about this attack. It was probably carried out by members of the National Front who are using all sorts of methods to discredit the miners."

A Kent Police spokesman said that of the other homes attacked in Deal on Sunday night three of the homes belonged to working miners, while the fourth was owned by a non-miner known to be sympathetic to the strike-breakers. In two of the attacks bedroom windows were smashed, but no one was injured.

21 FACES LOST
The number of coal faces lost since the start of the miners' strike, was 21, said Mr David Hunt, junior Energy Minister, in a Commons written reply yesterday. A further 87 were causing concern.

Pe PROVES HIMSELF
Pc Robert Yates appeared before South Yorkshire police committee yesterday to prove he was a serving police officer, not a military policeman, as had been alleged.

Heroine of mob attack—Mrs Pat Head with her husband John and their son Tracy at their home at Edlington, South Yorks.

Notts miners likely to alter rule book

By JAMES O'BRIEN

CHANGES in the Nottinghamshire miners' rule book are likely to be approved next month to end its subordination to the Union's National Executive.

The proposed changes will come before a meeting of the Union's area council on Dec. 20.

They were discussed by branches at the weekend at generally well-attended meetings where delegates to the area council were mandated on their vote.

If the area goes back to its own rule book it is no longer subordinate to the NUM Executive and its decision may be an invitation to the expulsion of the 30,500 members from the NUM.

Almost since the start of the nine-month miners' strike the 25 pits, workshops and transport depots in Nottinghamshire have been working normally.

Strength of support
There are estimated to be fewer than 1,000 miners still supporting the strike in the Nottinghamshire coalfield and it is the strength of support from the working miners that the rules changes have been started in earnest.

A large majority of NUM members in Nottinghamshire voted against a national strike and subsequent branch elections brought heavy defeats for the Left.

The mainstay of the intended rule change in Nottinghamshire is to preserve the autonomy of the Nottinghamshire area while keeping its existing status as a constituent member of the national union.

At present, area rule 30 states that in all matters where the area rules and national rules are in conflict it is the national rule which would apply. The intention in Nottinghamshire is to delete rule 30 and its over-riding authority.

That decision would bring to an end the power of the National Executive to instruct the area council to terminate memberships of "recalcitrant members."

SCARGILL AT TUC TODAY

By JOHN RICHARDS

MODERATE TUC leaders appeared yesterday to be marking time on any fresh initiative to get negotiations on the 38-week pit strike resumed.

The TUC "Inner Cabinet," its Finance and General Purposes Committee, adjourned until tomorrow consideration of the dispute, which will allow the seven members of the General Council who are "monitoring" the strike to hold talks today with Mr Scargill and his fellow negotiators.

It was being emphasised that the TUC chiefs had no specific proposals to put to the NUM.

But there have been mounting reports that some moderates on the General Council, which also meets tomorrow, would like to make a fresh approach for peace talks to the Coal Board, possibly through Mr Peter Walker, Energy Secretary.

Another option is to try to persuade the NUM to enter talks on revision of the tripartite agreement, Plan for Coal, ahead of a settlement on the current plan to reduce capacity by 4 million tonnes and close another 20 pits with the loss of 20,000 mining jobs in the next 12 months.

Willis report
There was no statement after yesterday's meeting, which heard a detailed report on the dispute from Mr Norman Willis, TUC General Secretary.

The committee had before it a letter from Mr John Lyons, General Secretary of the Engineers and Managers Association, urging the TUC to reconsider its Congress policy of "total support" for the miners unless the NUM was prepared to make concessions in negotiations.

The letter was "noted" and allowed to lie on the table pending tomorrow's General Council, at which Mr Lyons is expected to put his arguments forward.

Mr Willis was said to have noted the drift back to work but also to have reiterated the view that, even if Coal Board tactics succeed, the miners would be forced back on terms which could engender lasting and enormous bitterness in the coalfields.

ARSON ADMITTED

Michael Jones, 25, a striking miner, of Fleckney Avenue, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, pleaded guilty at Stoke-on-Trent yesterday to charges of destroying by fire three coaches and a minivan belonging to Thompson Tours, of Longton Road, Trentham, Northampton. Sentence was deferred as five colleagues pleaded not guilty.

£800m raised by sale of properties in new towns

By JOHN GRIGSBY Local Government Correspondent

THE sale of shops, offices, factories and houses in new towns in England and Wales has raised about £800 million since the Government ordered development corporations to start disposing of their assets five years ago.

The corporations have raised a total of £500 million for the Exchequer by selling commercial and industrial property. The other £300 million has come from the sale of homes to tenants.

Ministers are generally pleased with the progress which the new towns have made in selling their assets, generally at the rate of £2 million to £3 million a year each.

But the introduction of the controversial policy soon after Mrs Thatcher won the 1979 General Election has seen a radical shift in the strategies of the skill-developing new towns. They are now relying largely on private capital both for commercial development and housebuilding.

A wide range of pension funds, financial institutions and private companies have stepped in both to acquire the assets and to finance new developments in the 21 new towns in England and Wales.

The eight new towns where the development corporations have been wound up and the remaining assets managed by

the Commission for New Towns — Bracknell, Corby, Crawley, Harlow, Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead, Stevenage and Welwyn Garden City — have contributed between them £300 million to the sale of industrial and commercial property. One of the "third generation" towns, Milton Keynes, has been particularly successful in selling property — to the tune of £40 million during the past five years.

'Starter homes'
Most of the 2,500 homes a year now being built in Milton Keynes are for owner-occupiers, tenants in shared ownership schemes or housing associations.

The town's shared-ownership programme accounts for 40 per cent of the country's schemes. The "homes-for-sale" range from £20,000 "starter homes" to houses costing £110,000.

The town's development corporation is planning for another 28,000 houses to be built and 38,000 jobs provided over the next 14 years, to give the town a population of 180,000.

To help the new towns, the Government has introduced a Bill, which this month received its second reading, which would suspend some of the new town debts and write off others. The "third-generation" new towns otherwise faced completely unrealistic debt and interest charges.

Dispute-hit port pays 600 to stay home

By STEPHEN WARD Industrial Staff

SIX hundred Southampton dockers are being paid £123 a week each to stay at home during a manning dispute which threatens the port's future as a container base.

The container terminals have been idle since Oct. 20, which was the deadline set by port management for dockers to accept several hundred job cuts.

Because the employers tore up the old agreement they are forced to continue to pay the minimum £123 a week wage under the National Dock Labour Scheme agreement, which guarantees wages even when there is no work.

A Southampton Docks spokesman said yesterday that all 900 dockers were reporting for work each day. Work was found for about 300 on the grain car and cruise ship terminals, but the other 600 were being sent home.

Four clients gone
The men's normal average earnings would be £250 a week. Even when the port is not in dispute, it is usual for some dockers to be sent home on basic pay because there is insufficient work.

The port had been trying to cut the jobs of 180 registered dockers, but since the dispute

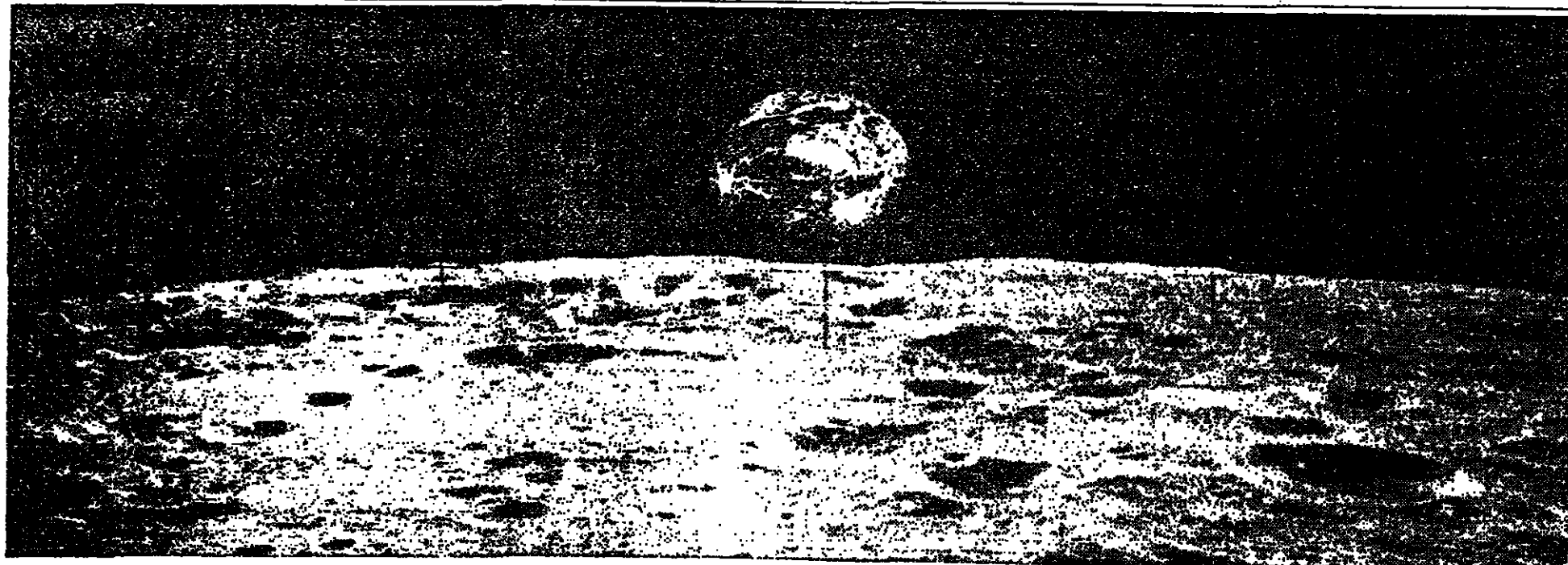
begin four major clients have decided to take their business elsewhere, and the redundancy target has been raised to 340. The management also wants a review of agreements which it says have led to serious over-manning.

The four firms which have pulled out handled a quarter of the port's container trade. Three of the four have switched to Felixstowe, which has the advantage of being free of the restrictive practices which have grown up in the older ports.

Mr Alf Piddock, deputy port director, has said that if Southampton cannot get the agreements sought with the union, there is a "very strong possibility" that it could close for ever as a container port.

The remaining container business is split between two large consortia, Trin, operating 20 container ships and putting 140,000 containers a year through Southampton, and South Africa Europe Container Service, with 80,000 containers a year. Both have made temporary arrangements with other ports.

Mr Michael Leslie, chairman of the standing committee for Trin, said the consortium had been seriously discussing transferring the business to Felixstowe, but the port did not have enough spare capacity at the moment.



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FOOTPRINTS IN BLOOD 'LED TO DOUBLE KILLER'

By IAN HENRY Old Bailey Correspondent

FOOTPRINTS in blood led police to the killer of two teenage sweethearts whose bodies were found in a dumper truck on a South London children's playground, said Mr ALLAN GREEN, prosecuting at the Old Bailey yesterday.

ROBERT VAUGHAN, a 17-year-old packer, volunteered for Saturday overtime to complete a German export order and took his schoolgirl fiancée, MICHELE SADLER, also 17, along to help him.

Next day, their bodies were found on a Southwark Council dumper truck. Michele was naked except for a pullover.

Mr Green alleged the young couple had been killed in the basement packing shop and then their bodies were dumped through the streets of Southwark in a dumper truck.

Detectives found blood tracks in the blood left behind at the murder scene. And a workmate, sharing the work, had shoes to match, alleged Mr Green.

The workmate, DAVID LEE, 18, of Linsay St, Rotherhithe, has denied the double murder of Robert, of Cherry Gardens Street, Rotherhithe, and Michele, of Chislehurst Street, Stepney.

Mr Green said that Robert had two wounds to the neck. Michele had been strangled with a piece of wire and had a gag of rolled brown paper in the back of her mouth. She had been sexually assaulted.

Robert's parents, Mr and Mrs RONALD VAUGHAN, were in tears as they left the court after saying that their son liked Carv and the two were good friends.

Engaged four months Mr Green said that Robert and Michele had become engaged four months earlier on her 17th birthday.

In February this year, Robert and Carv were due to do some overtime on the completion of an export order and Robert had permission for Michele to be there as well.

While on their own in the building, said Mr Green, Carv attacked Robert in the men's lavatory with a Stanley-type knife, cutting his neck and throat and killing him.

It was alleged he also today.

Cleaned up Carv still insisted he had nothing to do with the deaths. He was said, although he had returned to the premises. He claimed he feared he would be suspected of the killings, so he cleaned up and moved the bodies.

Mr Green alleged that not only did Carv clear up the premises, but the evidence demonstrated he was also responsible for the two killings.

Mr Green told the jury that because Robert's underwear were found on his body, he was found, police may have come to the wrong conclusion that Carv had discovered the couple making love. Because Robert was found dead in the toilets, it was more likely he was attacked there.

The trial was adjourned until today.

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Murdered teenage sweethearts Michelle Sadler and Robert Vaughan whose bodies were found in a dumper truck.

Odd-job Briton killed on Costa del Crime

By TIM BROWN in Madrid

A BRITON working as an odd-job man in the Costa del Sol resort of Torremolinos has been brutally murdered.

The repeatedly stabbed body of Hugh Lomas, 51, a former brewery worker from Warrington, Cheshire, was found dumped in a field of sugar cane on the edge of town last week.

The body was so badly mutilated that police could only identify using fingerprints.

Mr Lomas moved to Spain in September, 1983, after being made redundant. He stayed in Torremolinos, but police said yesterday he had no settled address and no permanent work, although he earned some money from odd jobs.

He was arrested and charged with theft last December. He was released from prison in February when £2,000 bail from relatives in Britain was paid into court.

The British consular staff in Malaga said Mr Lomas had not been in contact since his release. They were informed of his death at the weekend.

Crazed addicts News of the killing came as a storm about rising crime on the Costa del Sol continued to grow.

Residents many of them retired Britons, at the picture-postcard resort of Nerja, east of Malaga, petitioned the authorities at the weekend demanding a crackdown on armed drug addicts who have been terrorising the town.

The Britons and other foreign residents complained that their once peaceful life in the Spanish sunshine has been shattered.

They now live in fear of being robbed or mugged or even attacked in their homes by crazed drug addicts, desperate for money for fixes, they said.

Spanish authorities, clearly worried about the effect the rising crime rate could have on the nation's vital tourist trade, there are four million British visitors each year, have promised an all-out effort to make the region safer.

Plans have been drawn up for improved policing and a crackdown against organised crime.

AS SAFE AS LONDON Travel agents reply

Holidaymakers were no more likely to be robbed or murdered in Spain than in London, the Association of British Travel Agents said yesterday.

ABTA also denied that violence from drug addicts was the cause of a 40 per cent fall in bookings to the Costa del Sol this year. Price rises and a trend towards late bookings were the more likely reasons.

MARK PHILLIPS CRASH MAN FINED £60

Andrew Greenhalgh, 19, a professional footballer with Aston Villa reserves, was fined £50 at Stour-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, yesterday for careless driving in a head-on crash with a Range Rover driven by Capt Mark Phillips.

Greenhalgh, of Carisbrooke Road, Melksham, Wiltshire, pleaded guilty and was ordered to have his licence endorsed with four penalty points.

The prosecution said that Capt Phillips was driving at night towards Northleach on the A249 when he was suddenly confronted by a Renault which was overtaking a lorry. He braked hard but could not avoid the collision. His vehicle was a write-off, but he was not injured. Greenhalgh had a leg injury.

MOTHER BEATEN TO DEATH

A woman, bludgeoned to death late Sunday night while her two young sons slept upstairs, probably disturbed an intruder, police said yesterday.

Bonita Bontay, 31, was found on the kitchen floor at her home in Beech Avenue, Northampton, by her common law husband Rod Barnwell.

Krugerrands case judge calls for stiffer penalties

ROY GARNER, a businessman who masterminded a £2,200,000 gold tax fraud was jailed for four years, fined £150,000 and ordered to pay £90,000 costs by Judge Richard Lowry, Q.C. at the Old Bailey yesterday.

Garner, 43, of Cannon Hill, Southgate, was convicted on two charges of conspiring to defraud Customs and Excise over VAT payable on £14 million worth of Krugerrands imported from Jersey.

He was sentenced to the maximum of two years on each charge. He will serve an additional two years if the fine is not paid within a month.

Judge Lowry said his powers of punishment were limited and he hoped maximum penalties would soon be increased. He called for new legislation to plug a loophole in the law regarding maximum prison sentences.

Five other defendants, including Garner's son, Mark, 21, a company director, who was jailed for six months, pleaded guilty. The others were given sentences ranging from two years to six months suspended.

Nightclub owner Eighteen months ago, Garner, a nightclub owner and racehorse breeder, was named in court by Scotland Yard as an associate of top criminals.

He had earlier collected £200,000 in rewards from insurance companies for giving police information which led to the recovery of stolen gold ingots.

Judge Lowry said Garner and the other defendants had plotted "to live in comfort on other people's money" by swindling tax in a "shrewd and well-executed way."

The judge commended a team of Customs officers for their investigation into the swindle. They took hundreds of photographs to link the defendants and compiled a 5,000-page dossier.

Mr David Jefferys, Q.C., prosecuting, said Garner, the organiser and financier of the fraud, took advantage of a "postponed accounting system" which enabled genuine traders in gold to pay VAT at a later stage.

The system has since been abandoned by Customs because of abuses. Others sentenced were: David Bullen, 38, of Arabia Close, Chingford, given two years and fined £25,000 with £7,500 costs; Kenneth Howard, 46, of Minchenden Crescent, Southgate, given 15 months, fined £20,000 and ordered to pay 7,500 costs; Paul Fenton, 43, of Central Hill, Upper Norwood, given nine months and ordered to pay £7,500 costs, and his wife Doris, 40, given six months suspended for two years.



Judge Lowry: limited powers of punishment.



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Mafia makes London its 'drugs capital'

AMERICAN and Italian mafia bosses have chosen London as a base for multi-million pound drug deals because they regard it as an ideal distribution point, Det. Sgt BARRY STRONG, of Scotland Yard's Drug Squad, said yesterday at the Old Bailey.

The jury was told that 3½ kilos of almost pure cocaine, worth £1½ million at street value, was seized by detectives during a raid on a Chiswick flat.

It was the largest haul of cocaine found by the Metropolitan Police.

FERNANDO ORTIZ, 37, a Colombian, of Wellesley Road, Chiswick, was jailed for 10 years after being convicted of possessing and supplying cocaine. He was also fined £138,000 and recommended for deportation.

CUSUMU MORGAN, 32, of Sloane Square, who acted as "minder" for the drugs was jailed for three years.

Judge NINA LOWRY told them: "This case has revealed a picture of international cocaine dealing. It is plain from the evidence that clever and experienced criminals in this country, Italy, North and South America have succeeded in making huge sums of money out of this evil trade."

The judge said Ortiz was "well up in the hierarchy" but others had evaded capture. They included a suspected Mafia boss, FERNANDO BOSTA, 40, who rented a Brera flat but managed to slip through the net and escape abroad hours before police moved in.

Three acquitted He was arrested in October last year 16 months after the theft and told police he had been paid £5,000 for his role in the crime.

Judge Oliver Martin, told Horncastle that he took into account the fact that three other postmen had been acquitted by a jury on Nov. 16 of the same offence.

"That, I am afraid, sometimes happens in our system of justice when juries have to decide facts. I am not sure that I should bear it in mind, but I do give some weight to that," Judge Martin said.

SEX ASSAULTS

TEACHER JAILED

A music teacher sexually assaulted a 12-year-old girl pupil at his former school after she gave him a valentine, Bristol Crown Court was told yesterday.

John Fairhead, 49, of Court Farm Road, Whitchurch, Bristol, who admitted four charges of indecent assault, was sentenced to nine months in jail, with 4½ months of its suspended.

Mr Rupert Burswell, prosecuting, said Fairhead assaulted the girl on four occasions after he had been made redundant from the independent school. Two charges of unlawful sexual intercourse were dropped.

PC FINED FOR DRINK-DRIVING

A policeman arrested for drink-driving after he drove through police tape cordoning off the Oxford Circus tube fire area at the weekend was fined £250 and banned from driving for a year at Marlborough Street Court yesterday.

PC ROBERT CUSHION, 27, of Gainsborough Avenue, Manor Park, admitted driving while unfit through drink. A charge of failing to give a breath sample was dropped.

MOTHER BEATEN TO DEATH

A woman, bludgeoned to death late Sunday night while her two young sons slept upstairs, probably disturbed an intruder, police said yesterday.

Bonita Bontay, 31, was found on the kitchen floor at her home in Beech Avenue, Northampton, by her common law husband Rod Barnwell.

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RAISON SEES RAF FLY FOOD TO STARVING

By R. BARRY O'BRIEN in Addis Ababa

THE Minister of Overseas Development, Mr Raison, watched yesterday as 15 of the last 800 tons of grain for famine relief were loaded in to an RAF Hercules at the Red Sea port of Assab.

Twenty tall Afar loaders in colourful shirts, cloths wrapped round their heads, moved the grain in minutes, racing up the ramp at the rear of the aircraft, 100lb sacks on their backs and scattering small pieces of wheat over the floor.

There is no more relief grain there, the Russian aircraft have been switched to flying families from Makalle for resettlement from south-western Ethiopia. More than 7,000 people had been airlifted from the north by yesterday.

Grain was being offloaded from the Greek ship Aetos, 18,375 tons, through a hopper putting it automatically into bags. But this 27,500-ton shipment had been bought by the Ethiopian government for Addis Ababa and other towns, and was not for famine victims.

In a nearby berth, 10,000 tons of wheat and sorghum flour from the American voluntary agency, Catholic Relief Services, was being unloaded straight on to lorries to be moved by road, and was not going to the airfield.

Mr Yusuf Ahmed, Ethiopia's Minister of Transport and Communications told Mr Raison that the port was now handling 3,000 tons of relief grain in a day, and would clear the 10,000 tons in three to four days.

"Then we will be waiting for the next ship. Maybe it will be the end of December or the first part of January. We don't know," he said. Mr Ahmed praised the RAF and regretted there was no more grain for the Hercules to carry to the north.

"Your team is the best despite the limited number of aircraft. Some others are flying six aircraft, but doing half what the RAF has done," he said.

Shot in arm for flagging U.S. economy

By DAVID SHEARS in Washington

A QUARTER-POINT fall in American bank interest rates yesterday follows the Federal Reserve Board's lowering of its discount rate last Wednesday by half a percentage point to 8½ per cent.

The relaxation by the "Fed" was seen as an effort to revive the economy, which has slowed to a sluggish rate of growth after the steady expansion of the spring.

But nobody knows whether the Central Bank's touch on the accelerator will work. If business stays slow the chances of narrowing the budget deficit will be even worse than currently projected.

Healthy pre-Christmas sales by retailers over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend lifted some recent fears that America might be heading into a new recession.

But the budget deficit remains a nightmare. Mr Donald Platten, chairman of the Chemical Bank, writing in yesterday's New York Times, said bringing down the record projected deficit for the current financial year of \$210 billion (£174 billion), would require major and sometimes wrenching policy changes.

Critical cuts

These would be impossible without public support and a "truly bipartisan coalition," he argued.

As Mr Reagan sits down with his advisers in the White House to discuss the agonising choices involved, there is no sign of such bipartisan coalition and little evidence of agreement even within his own Government.

The options he faces contain political dynamite since they include cuts in such areas as farm spending, ex-servicemen's health benefits, medical care schemes for the aged and civil service pensions.

With economic growth now down to less than half the four per cent, annual increase forecast by the Government, revenues are shrinking and even the projected deficit could turn out to be an underestimate.



President Chernomirkin welcoming Mr Kinnock for their talks yesterday at the Kremlin where the Soviet leader promised that Russia would not make Britain a nuclear target if a Labour government stripped the country of her nuclear defences.

Shultz keen to embark on arms control talks

By DAVID SHEARS in Washington

AMERICA would like to begin actual negotiations on arms control in the talks on Jan. 7-8 in Geneva, and not just discussions of an agenda for ensuing meetings, said Mr Richard Burt, Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, during a breakfast television interview.

LEADERSHIP UNCERTAIN IN MOSCOW

By NIGEL WADE in Moscow

THE Supreme Soviet, or "Parliament," begins its brief winter session in Moscow today amid continuing uncertainty over developments within the Kremlin leadership.

Western observers will study the seating order closely when the Politburo assembles in the Grand Palace Hall.

Marshal Dmitri Ustinov, 76, Defence Minister, has not been seen since late September and is believed to be ill. Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, 53, the present heir apparent to President Chernomirkin, has been out of sight on several recent occasions and is said to be on holiday.

He is to visit Britain next month but has not been available to meet Mr Kinnock during the Labour leader's visit. Speculation about his position will intensify if Mr Gorbachev does not appear with due prominence today.

Lack of consensus

A meeting of the 300-member Communist Party Central Committee, which is usually held on the eve of the twice-yearly Parliamentary sitting, was not held yesterday. No explanation was given.

But some observers suspect it could reflect a lack of consensus over policies or personnel.

Another possible explanation is that the party has returned to the practice of the Khrushchev era in calling the Central Committee together only to discuss specific topics without specially linking it to Parliament.

This could reflect Mr Chernomirkin's repeated urging that the Supreme Soviet and other state, as opposed to party, organs play a more active role.

ZAMBIA CUTS CARS

By Our Lusaka Correspondent

Zambia has cancelled fresh imports of cars and banned any new projects except those with sizeable impact on the foreign-exchange situation or which promote more intensive use of existing capacity. The aim is to revive a deteriorating economy.

Uruguay poll means peaceful transition

By CRISTINA BONASEGNA in Buenos Aires

JULIO SANGUINETTI, 84, leader of the Centre Right Colorado (Red) party, emerged yesterday as Uruguay's virtual newly-elected president after 11 years of military rule.

As the vote-counting proceeded slowly, joyful street celebrations in Montevideo were marred by clashes between supporters of the leading Colorado party and the broad front Left-wing coalition. Nine people were injured and several arrested.

According to incomplete results yesterday from Sunday's poll, the Colorado party, which was in power when the military seized control in 1973, had a narrow lead over the Centre-Left Blanco party, with 38 per cent, to 32.7 per cent, of the votes cast.

The broad front, grouping Communists, Socialists, Christian Democrats and Independents, polled 20.7 per cent. of the votes.

The victory of the more conservative Colorado party is regarded as a guarantee of a smooth transition from a dictatorship to a democratic government. The new President is to be inaugurated on March 1.

BEAGLE FACT

Victory for Alfonsín

OUR BUENOS AIRES CORRESPONDENT writes: A referendum on a proposed solution to the border conflict with Chile was a clear political victory for President Raul Alfonsín of Argentina.

Results yesterday showed that 78 per cent. of the voters were in favour of the peace treaty and that turnout had been much higher than expected.

The treaty will put an end to the 100-year-old dispute over the Beagle Channel—a strategic waterway at the southern tip of Argentina.

CASTRO SNUBBED BY POPE

By LESLIE CHILDS in Rome

CARDINAL JOSEF GIMPO, the Polish Primate, flew into Rome yesterday for a week-long round of talks set amid mounting consternation over the Pope's alleged "double standard" on international issues.

The Cardinal arrived after disclosures that the Pope had refused an invitation from Fidel Castro to visit Communist-ruled Cuba.

"The Holy Father has been to his homeland of Poland but yet he rejected the chance of going to Havana," one Vatican source said last night.

"He seems to divide Communists into two categories—the ones he feels he can bargain with and those he feels he can't."

The way the Pope has so far failed to speak out with any weight about the murder of Polish priest Fr. Jerzy Popielusko is another reason for the charges of a "double standard."

Another Vatican official said: "He downplayed the matter of the assassination of a priest who laid down his life because he believed in the 'Solidarity' free trade union movement. He spoke out far more strongly when he condemned the murder of Mrs Indira Gandhi."

Talks delayed

Cardinal Gimp's latest mission to the Vatican to brief the Pope about the Polish situation should have started a few weeks ago. It was delayed by the kidnapping and murder of Fr. Popielusko.

The Cardinal made no comment after he emerged from airport talks with Poland's envoy to the Holy See. He smiled as he quipped: "I'm a deal-maker."

The Pope has for several months been under fire for the way he appears to encourage the clergy in overwhelmingly Roman Catholic Poland to intervene in political affairs yet continues to oppose "liberation theology" priests in Latin America.

Revelations that the Pope snubbed an invitation to visit Cuba were made yesterday by Italy's biggest-selling weekly magazine, the Roman Catholic Churchman, L'ESPRESSO.

According to the magazine, Dr Castro invited the Pope when he made his first overseas pilgrimage to Mexico, six years ago. But the Vatican rejected the offer on the grounds that he would have created divisions within the Church in Cuba.

The Cubans were told that the Pope's airline would be making a technical stopover at Nassau in the Bahamas on its return to Rome.

Now, says the weekly, the Pope's visit to Havana, Mac Gullagh, is waiting for a second invitation.

NO SUBMISSION, SAYS POLISH UNION-LEADER

By Our Diplomatic Staff

A Communist party member and former official of Poland's pro-Solidarity state-backed trade unions has been elected leader of the country's new trade unions, the official Polish news agency (PAP) said yesterday.

Mr Alfred Miodowicz, 55, was chosen to head a national council which the unions set up last weekend at their first assembly since they replaced the banned Solidarity movement. Mr Miodowicz said: "There is a worldwide opinion that the new Polish trade unions are submissive to the authorities. There will be no submission, and we will see if the opinion is maintained."

The new unions have adopted the stance of all other East bloc official trade unions in contending that since the Communist party and trade unions both aim to defend workers, they are natural allies.

AMNESTY APPEAL TO PAKISTAN

By Our Diplomatic Staff

Amnesty International yesterday appealed to President Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan to commute death sentences on political prisoners and allow an independent retrial.

Three of the four accused of abetting the skyjacking of a jet, were originally jailed but later condemned to death. It is claimed statements were extracted after torture.

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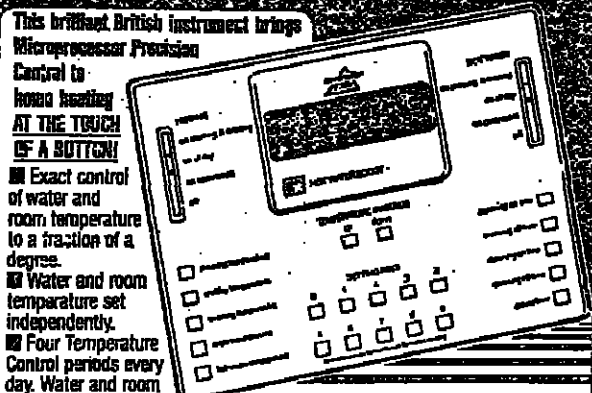
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OPPOSITION SPLIT IN INDIA FAVOURS RULING PARTY

By DAVID GRAVES in New Delhi

WITH nominations for the Indian General Election next month due to close today, the ruling Congress (Indira) party will be fielding most of its sitting MPs while the Opposition vote is likely to be split.

After earlier indications that up to 50 per cent. of the 536 sitting Congress (I) MPs would not be re-elected, the party refrained from wielding the axe too harshly and drooped only 80.

But any hope of the major non-Communist Opposition parties reaching agreements on seat-sharing to field a single candidate against the ruling party in most states appeared to have been dashed last night.

Barring a last-ditch deal, it appeared there would be four-cornered contests in most of the seats in the vital Hindi belt across northern India, the political heartland of the country.

That will be a substantial slip for the Congress (I), because in previous elections it has polled only up to 45 per cent. of the vote but has won because the Opposition was split.

Opposition leaders knew their only hope would be to field single candidates to avoid splitting the Opposition vote, but their quarrelling over the division of seats could not be resolved in time. There will now be multi-

cornered fights in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan, and between them these account for 220 of the 515 seats to be contested.

The Dalit Mazdoor Kisan party, led by Mr Charan Singh, former Prime Minister, wanted nearly three-quarters of the seats in the northern belt.

But the Bharatiya Janata party and the Janata-led six-party United Front—the two other major opposition groups—would not accede to this and decided to field their own candidates.

It appeared there would only be straight contests in three major states—Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and Gujarat—and in Delhi, the capital.

The only accord reached was that no other candidates would be fielded against four prominent Opposition leaders: Mr Chandrabhai Shekar, of Janata; Mrs Menaka Gandhi, of the Rashtriya Sanjay Manch; Mr Jagjivan Ram, of Congress (I); and Mr A. Vajpayee, of the Bharatiya Sanata party.



Miss Benazir Bhutto, 31, eldest daughter of the executed Pakistani Prime Minister, outling at a Press conference in Bonn yesterday a new phase in her people's fight against the military regime of President Zia.

Confident Liberal scores easy win in Hawke debate

By DENIS WARNER in Canberra

COMPOSED, confident, clearly well-prepared and with occasional flashes of wit and humour, Mr Peacock, the leader of the Opposition, had a comfortable win in the television debate last night with Mr Hawke, Prime Minister.

In all his many years in politics he has rarely performed better.

The result may not affect the Saturday election but is likely to remove any uncertainty about his continued leadership of the Liberal party.

All television networks carried the 30-minute debate and gave the result to Mr Peacock, with an Australian Broadcasting Corporation telephone poll giving him the verdict by 72 per cent. to 28.

Polis by the commercial channels indicated a much closer margin but still put Mr Peacock in front.

The debate was in the National Press Club before an audience of about a thousand, with a panel of six newspaper and TV journalists questioning the leaders.

Mr Peacock took an early lead in the preparatory remarks, speaking easily from notes which he glanced at only occasionally, while Mr Hawke read from a prepared text.

Figures from the commercial channels did not indicate the likelihood of any such trends, although most viewers must now accept Mr Peacock has become a serious and credible challenger for office.

Questioners did not avoid the more sensitive issues that the two leaders had skirted around during the campaign. Mr Peacock was not spared for his statement in Parliament that Mr Hawke was a "little crook" and Mr Hawke was asked how he had lost a thousand dollars in American currency.

On this occasion, the evidence seemed to support his claim.

U.S. tests nuclear ban by New Zealand

By Air Cdre G. S. COOPER in Wellington

THE pledge by New Zealand's Labour government to ban nuclear armed or powered vessels from the country's ports is due for a crucial test when the United States presents next year's programme of naval visits for approval.

Mr David Lange, Prime Minister, hopes to implement the ban without endangering the collective security pact, Anzus, signed in 1951 by Australia, New Zealand and America.

However, his recent commitment to this partnership in the Pacific is considered in an American report to be irreconcilable with his nuclear ban.

Since Washington, as a matter of principle, refuses to confirm or deny the nuclear capability of its ships, a ban on nuclear-armed vessels amounts to a ban on all American ships.

The report says the Lange government is threatening the Anzus treaty if it insists on verification of the nuclear status of these ships.

A ban on all American warships would prevent the Allies from working together in peace time, weakening the ability of the United States Navy to contribute to Western deterrence in the area.

Although proclaiming anti-nuclear sentiments, the New Zealand government has not gone so far as to declare itself wholly against nuclear defence, and may yet find an acceptable way of staying under the American nuclear umbrella.

Under normal circumstances Washington would be expected to submit its list of ships' visits within the next few weeks, but it will probably delay the submission until early next year to allow time for a diplomatic solution to the problem.

There is evidence already that Mr Lange appreciates the importance of maintaining stability in the area through collective security.

More arms cash. He has approved a 15 per cent. increase in the defence budget to just over £500 million, and recently attended an Anzus air defence exercise that involved the deployment to New Zealand of nuclear capable F-15 and F-16 fighters.

The Air Force has enjoyed the largest share of the increase in spending, strengthening the anti-ship capability by improving the maritime reconnaissance Orion, and raising the strength of Skyhawk fighter-bombers to 32.

The purchase of air-launched Harpoon anti-ship missiles is under consideration. To make way for a new Skyhawk squadron, an Andover transport squadron of six aircraft has been deactivated, leaving unchanged at seven the total number of operational squadrons.

Fiji bases ruled out. The United States has no plans to seek military bases on Fiji to compensate for New Zealand's refusal to permit visits by American nuclear warships, a senior American administration official said yesterday in Washington.—Reuters.

There is a firm conviction among Western observers that the Marcos "family clique" involving his ambitious wife, Mrs Imelda Marcos, her brother, Mr Kokoy Romualdez, and the President's daughter, Mrs Imee Marcos-Manotoc, have been responsible for taking major decisions while the Chief of State has been incapacitated.

It is also believed that these three, together with a handful of co-adjutors, have attempted to fabricate the impressive internationality of the President, throughout his illness, has been physically competent to retain full control of government.

There have been strong indications that the President underwent surgery sometime



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Haggard Marcos signs Budget on TV

By IAN WARD in Manila

WITH his face etched with exhaustion and his eyes puffy, President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines, who is 67, appeared on television yesterday.

He was reported to be signing the archipelago republic's 1985 budget in front of members of his Cabinet.

A one-minute, 55-second film segment in the 4 p.m. news telecast depicted him, sitting in the Cabinet in Malacanang Palace, his official residence, earlier in the day.

The meeting represented the first time the Filipino leader has seen his Ministers since he dropped suddenly from public view on Nov. 11, prompting a rash of rumours about his state of health.

There have been strong indications that the President underwent surgery sometime

between Nov. 11 and 13. But palace officials have insisted he was merely being treated for influenza.

Explicitly conflicting official statements on the need to keep him in isolation have caused widespread scepticism of the Government's pronouncements.

There is a firm conviction among Western observers that the Marcos "family clique" involving his ambitious wife, Mrs Imelda Marcos, her brother, Mr Kokoy Romualdez, and the President's daughter, Mrs Imee Marcos-Manotoc, have been responsible for taking major decisions while the Chief of State has been incapacitated.

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No thundering trucks or clamorous rail-wagons to distract the search for new

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But close to main roads and railways, to make for easy communications.

Physiological Instrumentation is yet another company wanting peace and quiet.

They're established in Whitland Abbey, a courtly Victorian house in Dyfed.

Here they are developing their research into sensor-based electronic devices, which began at University College, London.

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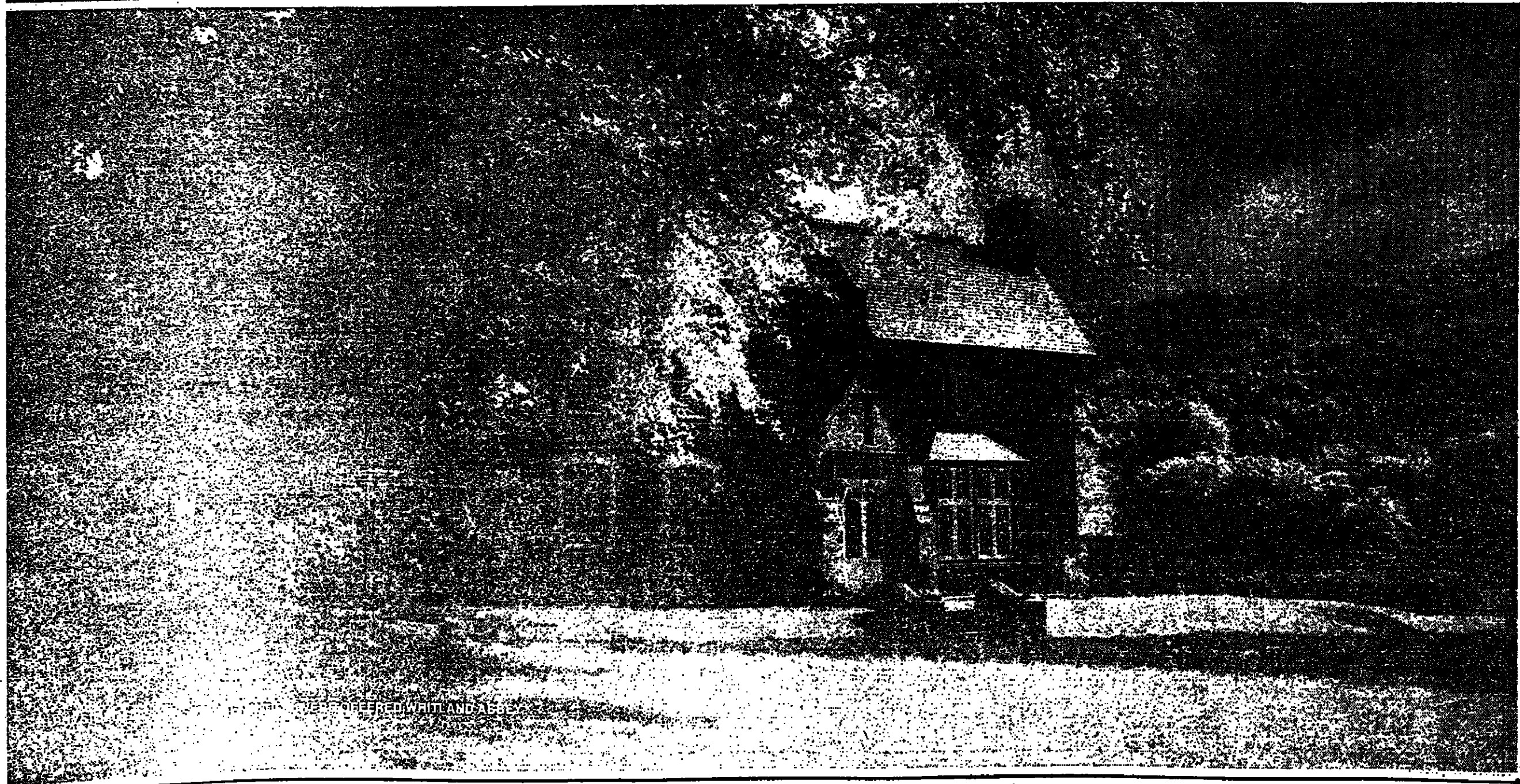
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PI ARE OFFERED WHITLAND ABBEY.

PARTIAL RETURN IN SOCIAL SECURITY COMPUTER STRIKE

By DAVID FLETCHER Health Services Correspondent

SOME of the Department of Health and Social Security computer operators who have been on strike since mid-May are to return to work tomorrow.

The Civil Service Union and the Society of Civil and Public Servants have recommended their 40 members at DISS offices in Newcastle and Washington, Tyne and Wear, to resume normal working.

But the biggest union involved, the Civil and Public Services Association, has failed to persuade its 580 members to accept the same terms and they are to remain on strike.

A DHSS spokesman said the partial return to work would enable disruption in the payment of benefits to be minimised but not ended.

"We are expecting an improvement in the situation but with 500 people still on strike things obviously can't get back to normal."

Peace deal

The two smaller unions have agreed new shift working patterns wanted by the department to achieve savings of about £700,000 a year.

The unions had said this would cause some members to lose up to £14 a week, but as part of the return to work agreement the DHSS has

Resale right for 'Airey' home owners

By Our Political Staff

SOME council tenants who bought system built 'Airey' houses before defects were found will still have the right to sell them back despite new legislation on paying compensation for repairs.

Under the Housing Defects Act, which takes effect at the end of the week, an advisory scheme under which councils could assist purchasers if they choose to replace a compulsory one.

But while the previous formula, introduced in February, 1983, encouraged councils to buy such houses back as an alternative to paying for repairs, repurchase will now be permitted only in certain cases.

Under the previous voluntary scheme they had until next September to serve notice on their council that they wanted to sell their homes back.

But with the new act taking effect this Saturday, they will from that point be in a situation where while the council is obliged to compensate them for repairs, there will be strict limits on resale.

ATTACK VICTIM DIES

Mr Paul Dwyer, 20, of Dodsfield Road, Britwell, Slough, who was left lying unconscious after being attacked near his home on Nov. 10, has died in hospital. Two men have been remanded in custody until Dec. 20, charged with offences relating to the attack.

BR workshops face up to competition

By JOHN PETTY Transport Correspondent

ORDERS to face competition from private enterprise has brought a dynamic response from the engineering workshops of British Rail. Mr Mitchell, Transport Under Secretary, said yesterday.

There had already been heavy redundancies in British Rail Engineering, including the recent closure of the Shildon works in Durham. Warnings were given earlier this year that a further 5,000 jobs were at risk.

The works are run as a separate business within British Rail and the Government is awaiting a report on their future from Mr Bob Reid, chairman of British Rail.

They are already subject to a policy by which they face competition from private firms when British Rail seeks new locomotives or carriages.

Growing efficiency

Mr Mitchell, visiting the British Rail engineering works at Wolverton, near Milton Keynes, said there was a growing efficiency and competitiveness in the Engineering.

There is now a clear possibility that instead of more big closures, BR Engineering might instead become a profitable candidate for privatisation.

The need for BR to spend £360 million on new trains for rural and urban lines alone in the next five years holds out prospects of large orders.

On top of that is the need for much other new equipment with electrification schemes. BR offered goods in computer magazines at up to half price from an accommodation address in

MODEL OFFICER TOOK CASH

A NAVAL OFFICER, who fiddled a total of £3,000 in welfare and cash funds of the Polaris submarine Revenge, was ordered to be dismissed from the Service by a court martial at Rosyth yesterday.

Lieut. David Glyn, stationed at the Clyde submarine base, admitted nine charges of mis-using the funds.

Lt-Cdr Hugh Wolfenson, defending, said financial losses over homes, personal loans and school fees for his two sons at boarding school after he became an officer in 1979, had been the cause of Glyn's downfall. In 1983 he owed more than £8,000 to his creditors.

"He joined the Navy at the age of 16," added Lt-Cdr Wolfenson.

"On his way up through the ranks he collected no fewer than seven exceptional ratings in his service record."

"He was held up in the Navy as an example of what can be done coming up from the bottom."

Glyn, who has repaid £1,700, was ordered to repay the balance.

The court martial left consideration of BEM to the Defence Secretary.

BIT OF BOTHER

A firm offering computers and software at "ridiculously low prices" is believed to be bogus, police said yesterday.

Spectra Imports (UK) offered goods in computer magazines at up to half price from an accommodation address in

DEATHS, IN MEMORIAM

Continued from Back Page

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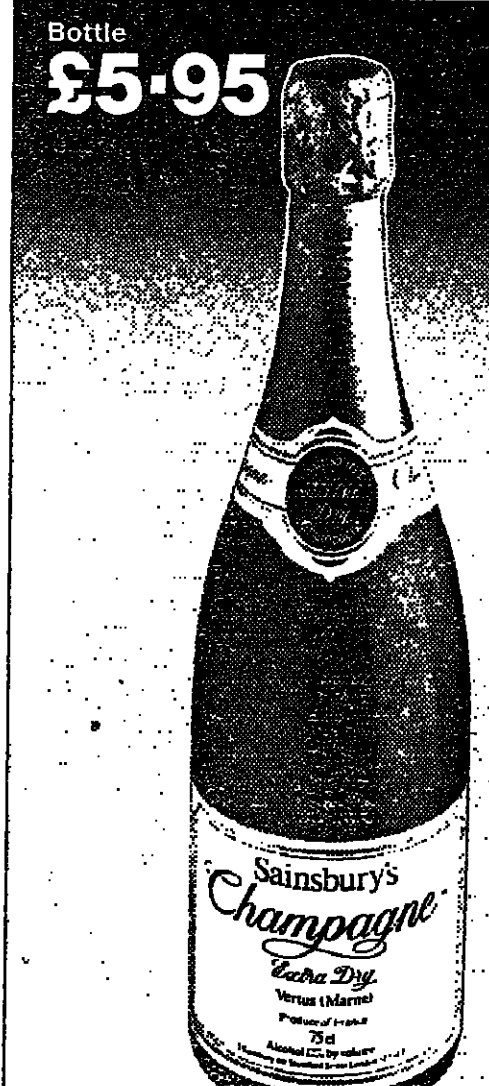
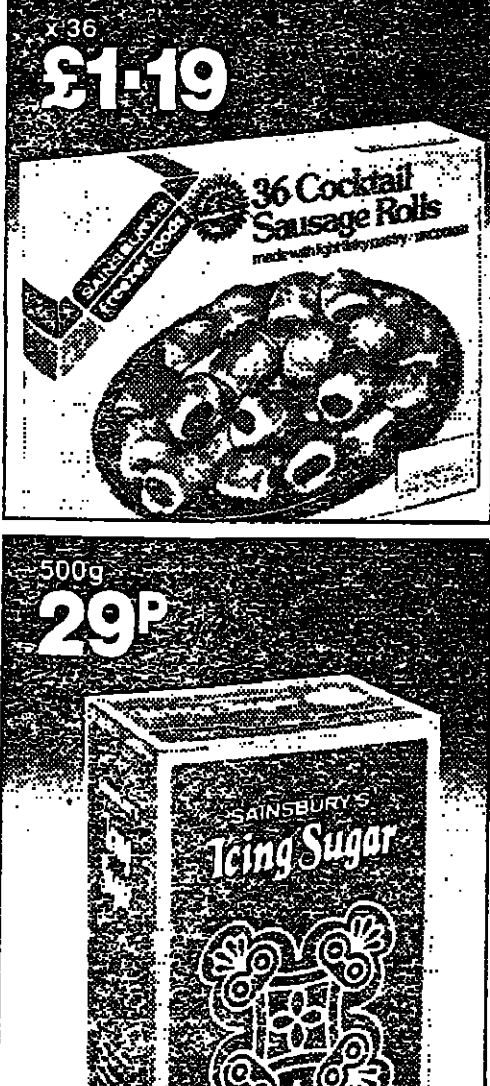
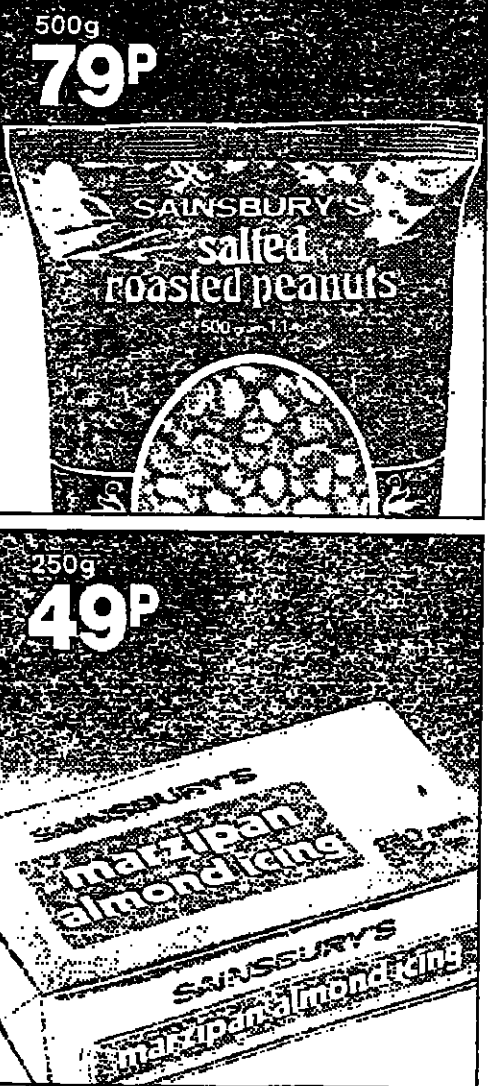
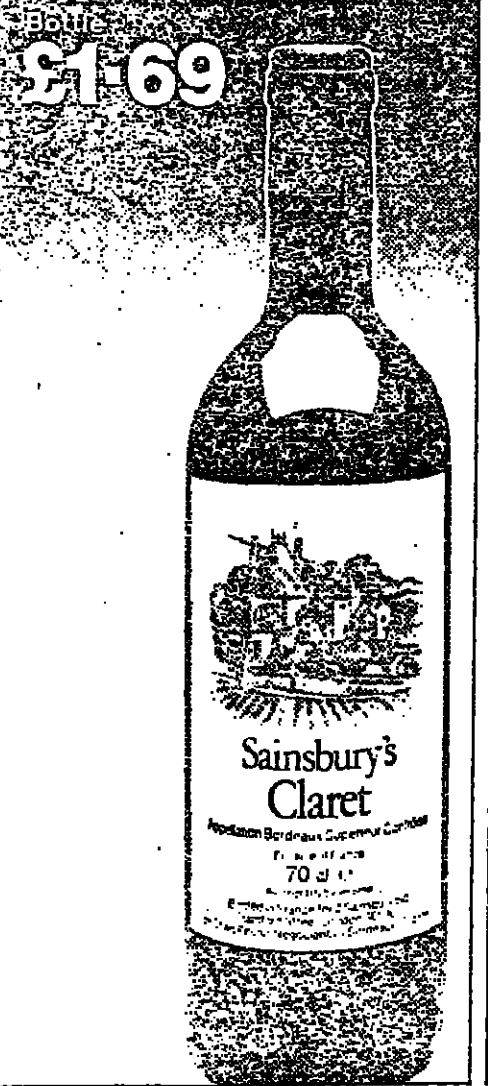
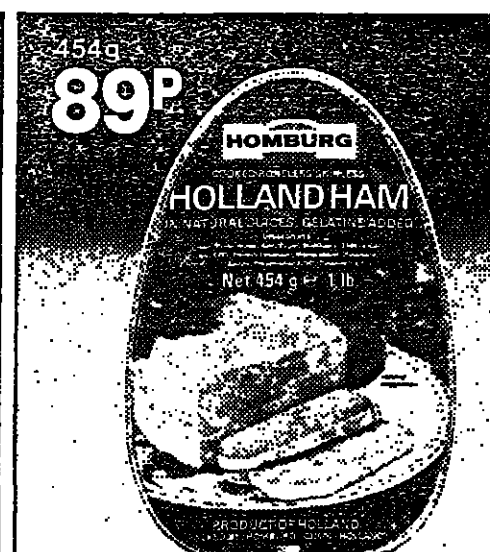
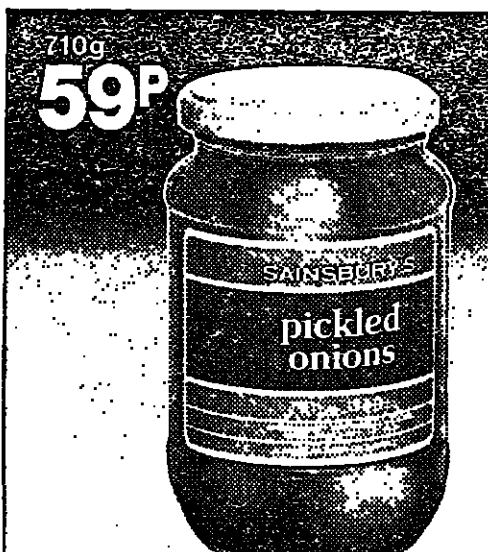
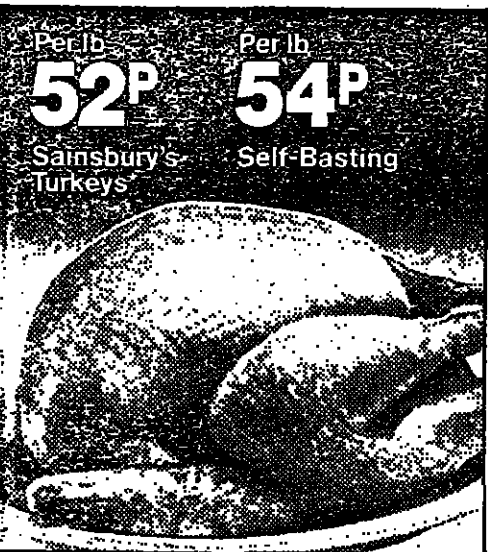
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At Sainsbury's prices it must be Christmas.



*Fresh at other prices.

All merchandise subject to availability.

THREE GUILTY OF 'SEX SLAVE' GIRL'S DEATH

Two prostitutes and their pimp were found guilty at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday of the manslaughter of a teenage girl who plunged 19 floors to her death after trying to escape a life of sex slavery.

The three intended to force Karen Harris, 15, of Greencroft Children's Home, Wolverhampton, into prostitution.

Deirdre Finnegan, 20, of Gillett Road, Edgbaston, Caroline Middleton, 18, of Eve Hill, Dudley, and Meriel Dowell, 36, of Highgate, Birmingham, who denied the charges, are due to be sentenced today.

LIVER BABY DIES

Louise Moran, 15 months, who has been seriously ill at King's College Hospital awaiting a liver transplant, died yesterday because no donor could be found in time.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

HAYNES, IRENE—HAROLD HAYNES wishes to thank all friends and neighbours for their kind words and sympathy in his sad loss. With special thanks to those who attended the funeral service.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

SPENCE—The Private Cremation of SPENCE, BLANCKMILL, and BARNON on Nov. 24, 1984, will take place at 11.30 a.m. on Nov. 24, at St. Michael's Church, Bournemouth. Burial in the cemetery. Flowers by family only.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

FRENCH—The Private Cremation of FRENCH, BLANCKMILL, and BARNON on Nov. 24, 1984, will take place at 11.30 a.m. on Nov. 24, at St. Michael's Church, Bournemouth. Burial in the cemetery. Flowers by family only.

IN MEMORIAM

REAL, ALFRED—ALFRED REAL, who passed away four years ago today, still moves in our hearts. God bless his loving wife and family.

WILLIAMS, EMMA—EMMA WILLIAMS, who passed away four years ago today, still moves in our hearts. God bless her loving family.

WILLIAMS, EMMA—EMMA WILLIAMS, who passed away four years ago today, still moves in our hearts. God bless her loving family.

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WILLIAMS, EMMA—EMMA WILLIAMS, who passed away four years ago today, still moves in our hearts. God bless her loving family.



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By 2 am I was in the air."

As you can see, there's more to running an oil company than simply pumping petrol into motor cars.



Britain at its best.

STRATEGY TO SAFEGUARD HADRIAN'S WALL

By KEITH NURSE, Arts Correspondent
PLANS for improved access and facilities for the public at key sites on Hadrian's Wall and proposals to safeguard the 73-mile-long Roman monument and its setting for future generations are detailed in a document published today.

The strategy, published by the Countryside Commission, has been drawn up by the Hadrian's Wall Consultative Committee, representing 52 local authorities and other organisations which was set up in 1977.

The Committee was formed to produce a comprehensive plan of work for the monument, because of problems arising from its popularity.

Problems of overcrowding, congestion, erosion and loss of essential archaeological sites have led to the need for a strategy. In the 1970s, the monument was largely affected by the central section, where the footpaths are alone with no other roads.

The broad aim of the strategy is to maintain a reasonable level of visitors at the sites in the central section while encouraging the development of footpaths to the east and west so that the monument can absorb an increasing number of visitors.

A new, continuous footpath along the line of the wall and additional access paths are needed to the strategy. More signposting and better public transport are also among the other recommendations.

More excavation

A visitor liaison officer for the whole wall and a special officer to develop the footpath should be appointed, it suggests.

Mr Graham Cousins, the Countryside Commission's northern regional officer and secretary of the committee, said: "For the first time in centuries, this strategy gives us the chance to look at the wall as a whole."

"I hope that all the bodies concerned on the committee will now make a major effort to make the strategy work."

Four sites are earmarked in the document for expansion. At Carvoran, in the western central section, near the Cumbria-Northumberland border, there is a fort but it is still covered.

The site offers good access and car parking potential and the committee considers that



Tania Chapman, 21—London's first-ever Personal Assistant of the Year. She won the title yesterday for her enthusiasm and sense of humour.

Open-land policy by farms aids access to countryside

By ROBERT BELLON, Estates Correspondent

A GROWING number of landowners and farmers are opening their land to the public as the Countryside Landowners' Association seeks a national solution to the practical problems of providing greater access to the countryside.

The Association is anxious to find the right balance between providing access, while at the same time avoiding undue interference with farming and other land management operations.

Talks have been held with representatives of 20 organisations involved with different aspects of the countryside and its uses for both work and leisure.

The discussions have taken on greater importance with the Government's proposals to amend the Wildlife and Countryside Act, next year.

One farmer who has made a positive attempt to integrate the public into the year-round business of his farm, is Mr Desmond Gunner, of Dower House Farm, Blackboys, near Uckfield, East Sussex.

His 400-acre beef and cereals farm in the High Weald area

of outstanding natural beauty has a car park for visitors and a clearly marked-out trail that is open all year.

The three-mile trail winds past the farm buildings, past ponds and through fields, giving visitors the chance to see wildlife and the usual activities of a Sussex farm, such as the 200 head of beef cattle, the harley growing and the Romney Marsh sheep flocks that winter there.

Buildings converted

Mr Gunner, who is chairman of the Sussex Country Landowners' Association, and chairman of the Sussex Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, said that the country must be converted in a positive and practical way.

Old farm buildings and east houses on his farm have been converted into craft workshops and holiday cottages not only to reverse the decline in rural employment but to augment the farm's revenue.

Most of the hundreds of visitors to the farm arrive in groups, and there are parties of schoolchildren.

He said: "Their favourite

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510/8079	Sharp GF4343 Stereo Radio/Cassette Recorder (M)	54.99
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530/2923	Philips 3303 Remote Control Black and White TV, 12" (T)	79.95
530/3032	Ferguson 3780C Portable Colour TV, 16"	199.95
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540/1848	Casiotone PT-80 Electronic Keyboard (J)	79.00 69.00
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610/3004	Lancelot Home Computer Desk*	79.50 45.99
670/2814	Silver Reed SR-180 De Luxe Portable Typewriter	4.99
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640/4954	Sodastream 101 De Luxe Soda Siphon	21.99 19.99
680/0943	Casio SL-750 Solar Power Credit Card Calculator (Rec Retail £10.95) (J)	8.95 7.95
860/5586	Tower "Royale" 3-piece Saucepan Set	39.99 32.99
860/5593	Tower "Royale" Frying Pan	16.99 13.99

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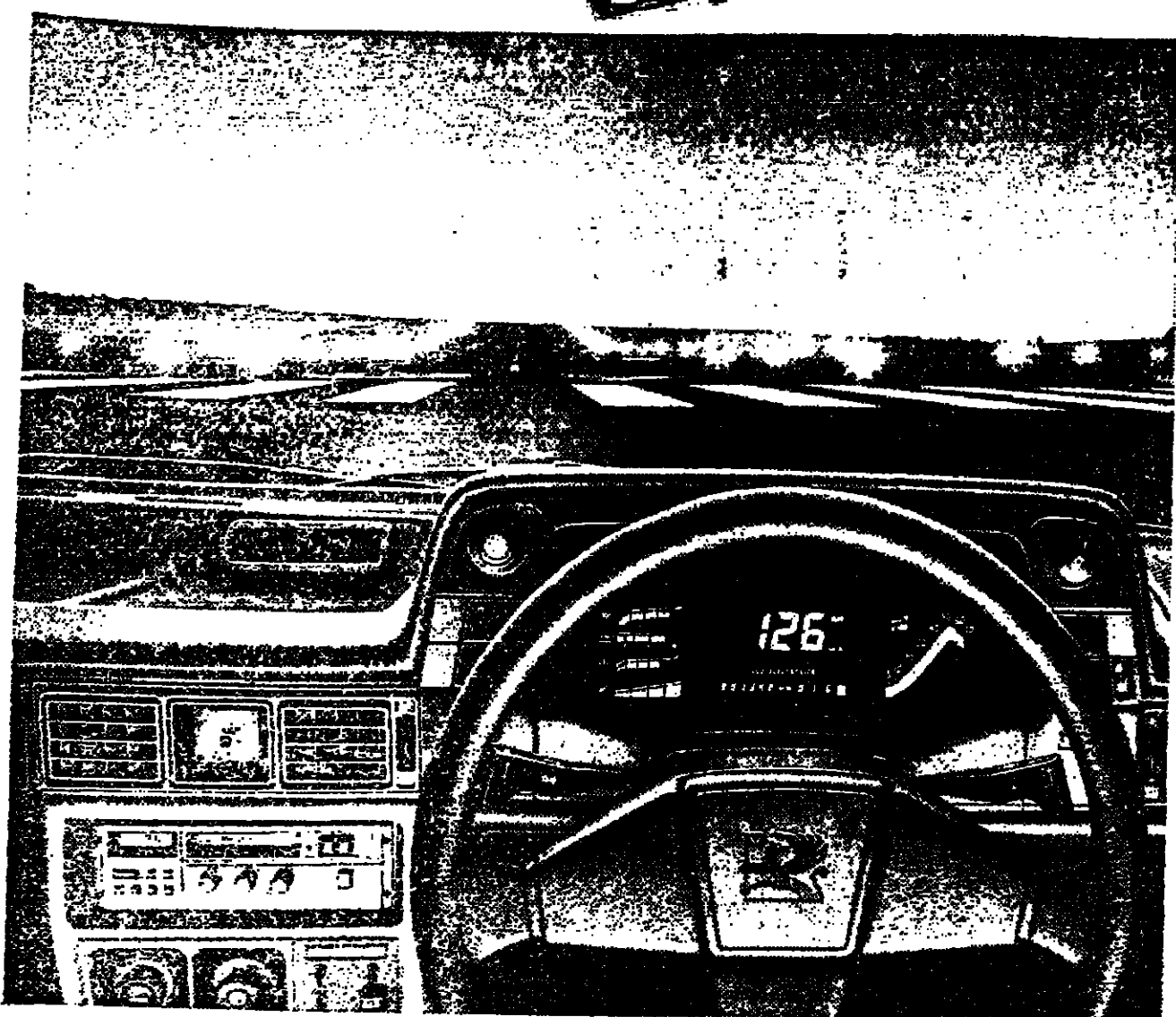
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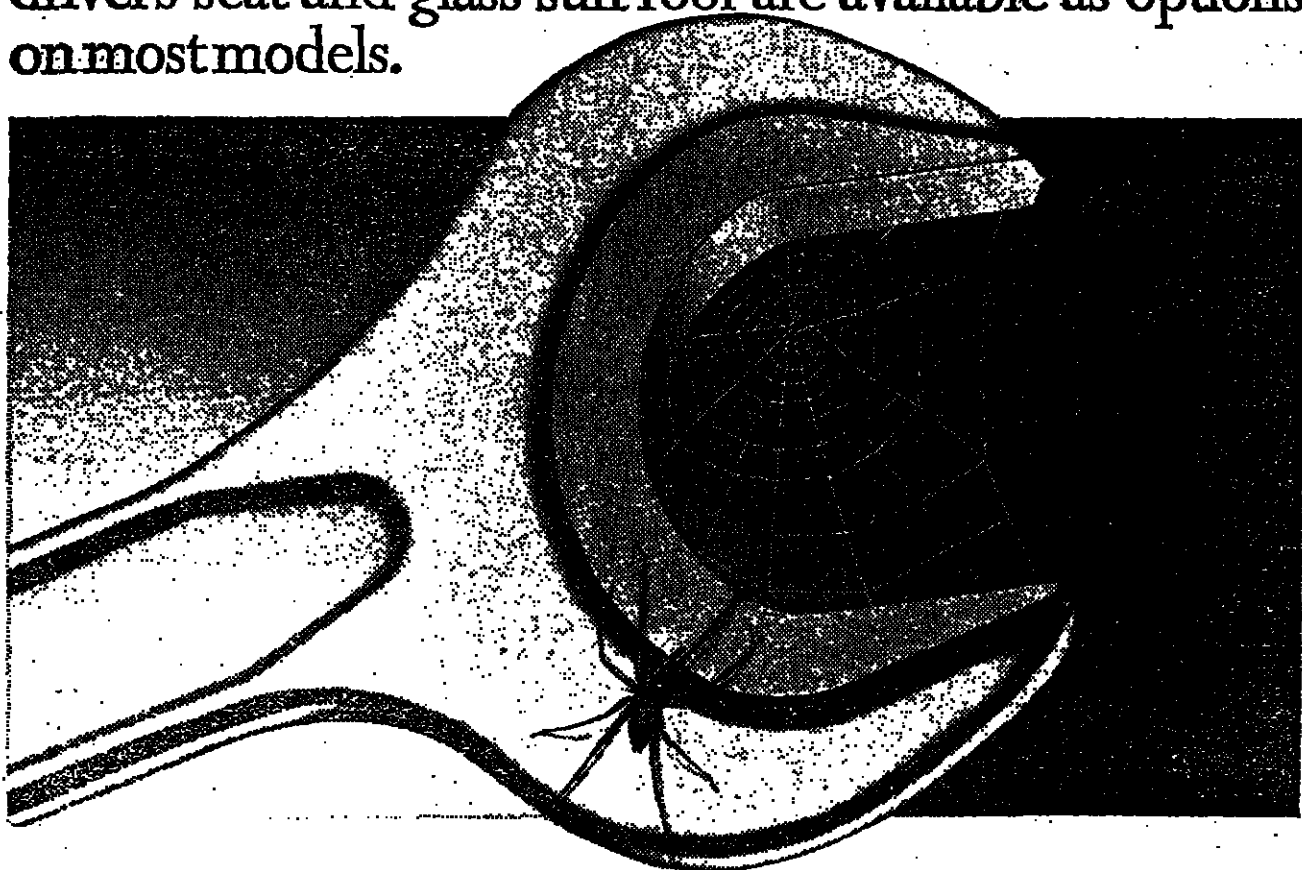
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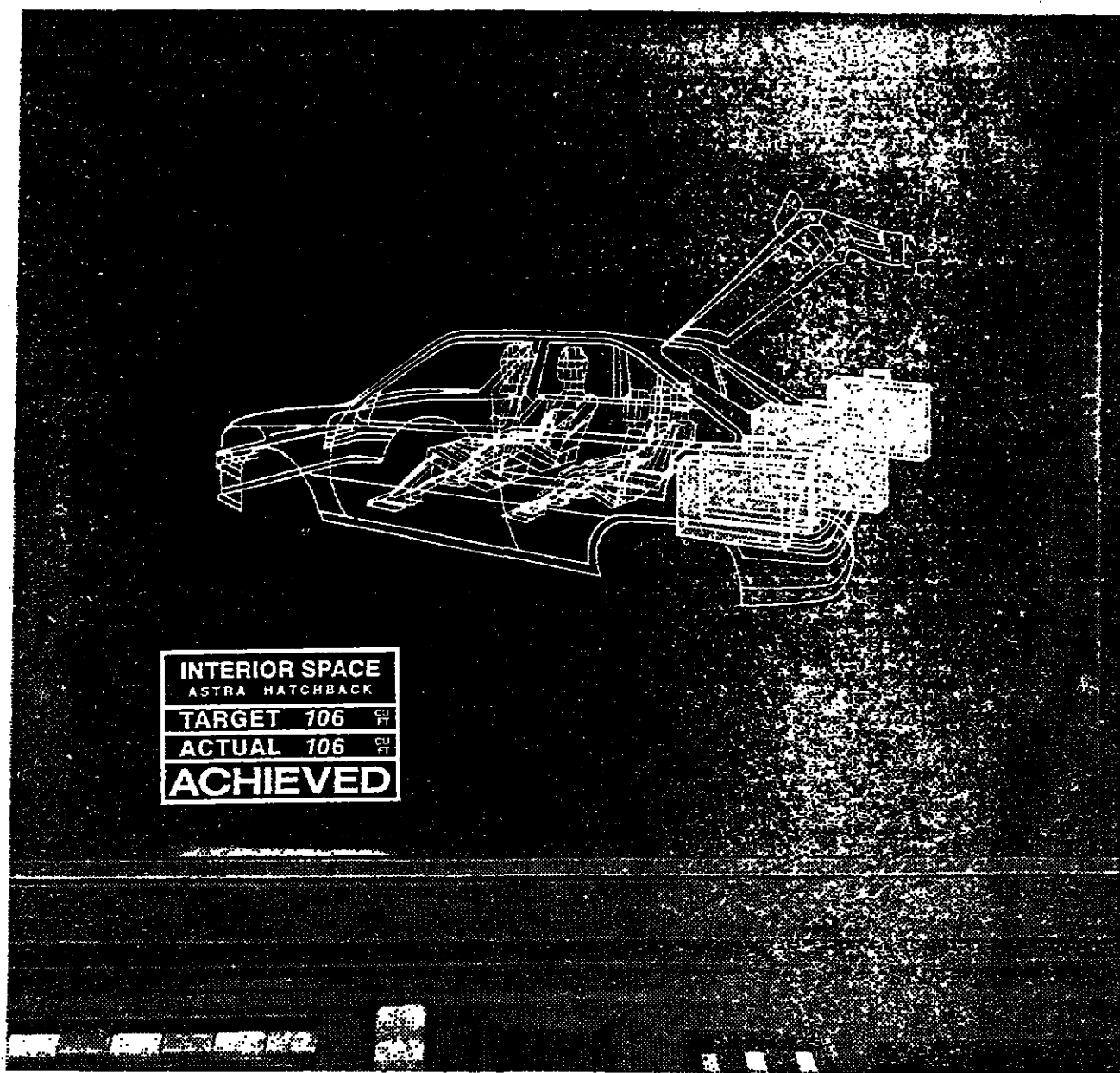
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WALKER WARNING OVER MINERS' REDUNDANCY ISSUE

By WILLIAM WEEKES Parliamentary Staff

GUARANTEES to miners of no compulsory redundancies would be jeopardised if the coal strike destroyed good pits, Mr WALKER, Energy Secretary, said in the Commons yesterday.

He also said that Britain still had the "most massive mountain" of coal—something like 37 million tonnes in stock—in spite of the strike, which is in its ninth month.

Mr Walker told the House he had received assurances from the chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, Sir Walter Marshall, that there would be no power cuts this winter if coal supplies continued at their present level.

Questioned on conflicting claims by the National Coal Board, and Mr Scargill, the miners' union president, on the numbers of men at work Mr DAVID HUNT, Energy Under-Secretary, said more than 66,000 NUM members were now not on strike and 99,000 people altogether were at work in the industry.

'Considerable threat'
Mr Walker was challenged several times from the Labour benches on the issue of compulsory redundancies.

Mr PETER HARDY (Lab., Wentworth) said he had received

a letter from Mr Ian MacGregor, the Coal Board chairman, which suggested that the pledge of no redundancies would last only until the end of March.

The ENERGY SECRETARY said Mr MacGregor rightly pointed out that if the strike continued and economic pits with good futures had their coal faces destroyed, that would create a very considerable threat to the industry as a whole.

Pressed further by Mr FOOT, former leader of the Opposition, Mr WALKER said: "The position is quite clear... that on all the plans for the future of this industry there will be no compulsory redundancies."

"The only thing that could interfere with those plans is if this irresponsible strike action destroys good economic pits."

Mr WALKER said power stations had substantial stocks of coal, similar to what they were on August 26.

He deplored the continuing



Mr WALKER: 'Massive mountain' of coal in spite of the strike.



Mr HARDY: A letter from Mr MacGregor about redundancy pledge.

violence seen during the dispute and injuries caused to miners who had returned to work.

Mr TOBY JESSEL (C, Twickenham) claimed that incidents in which a working miner was beaten and badly hurt while another had his home destroyed by fire were the direct result of Mr Scargill's "inflammatory and provocative rabble-rousing."

Mr WALKER said the "horrific" events of the last few days showed it was time that the NUM complied with the trade union guidelines on picketing or their own, and prevented "this type of mob activity and violence."

Immense damage had been done by the criminal acts taking place, particularly the violence used to try to stop people returning to work.

Use of intimidation
Miners wishing to go to work would be given all protection possible. Mr Walker told Mr John Maples (C, Lewisham, W.). But he added: "If in the early hours of the morning a mob breaks into somebody's house and beats him up... I am afraid you cannot give protection to every house."

Labour recognised that had

there been a ballot there would have been no intimidation and no crossing of picket lines.

"Intimidation has been the only method of keeping these people out of work."

Mr Hunt said the Coal Board's external auditors, Thomson McLintock Company, had been to North Derbyshire and tested and confirmed the reliability of the Board's systems for reporting the number of men returning to work. Similar systems were used in all the Coal Board's areas.

He disputed Mr Scargill's claim on Sunday that 144,275 miners were still on strike, saying the actual figure was 123,000. That was the level of distortion Mr Scargill used.

Today in Parliament
HOUSE OF LORDS
2.30: Debate on motion to revise Lords proceedings; Local Government and Social Security Orders; Debate on withdrawal of the £1 note.

HOUSE OF COMMONS
2.30: Debate on an Opposition motion on "the failure of Government policy to safeguard the natural environment and the national heritage of Britain"; Repairs Grants for Aired Houses (Variation Order); Okehampton Bypass (Compulsory Purchase) Orders.

GCHQ JOBS PLEDGE

THE question of dismissal for Civil Servants at the Government's Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham who refused to give up their trade union rights, had not yet arisen. Mr BARNEY HAYHOE, Treasury Minister of State, said in the Commons yesterday.

He said that following last week's House of Lords judgment "Every effort will be made to find alternative posts for those who do not wish to remain under the revised terms and conditions of service."

Replying to Dr Oonagh McDonald (Lab., Thurrock) during Question Time, he said: "The question of dismissal does not arise at this stage."

Dr McDONALD had urged the Government to allow the civil servants to keep their jobs until the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights.

Mr HAYHOE replied that the House of Lords had "completed the domestic legal process."

Statement call
Mr DAVID WINNICK (Lab., Walsall N) called for a Government statement on the situation at the secret communications centre.

Mr HAYHOE replied: "This is a matter for the Foreign Secretary."

"But I imagine the whole House will realise that the recent judgment of the House of Lords confirmed that already given by the Court of Appeal, that the revised terms and conditions of service introduced at GCHQ on Jan. 25 are valid."

Fowler turns the tables on Labour in strike benefits row

By PETER PRYKE, WALTER ABURN and ANTHONY LOOCH

MR NORMAN FOWLER, Social Services Secretary, rejected Labour charges in the Commons last night that he had cut £1 from the benefits paid to the families of strikers in order to defeat the National Union of Mine-

workers.

He also turned the tables on allegations that he had sought to stifle debate on the announcement of the cut.

Mr Fowler did this by attacking the Labour Front Bench for its failure to condemn the "parliamentary demonstration" which, last week, cut short a statement he sought to make on the issue.

He was assisted by an intervention by Mr ANDREW PAULDS (Lab., Walsley E) in the speech of Mr Michael Meacher, the Shadow Social Services Secretary.

Mr Paulds described as "damaging and ill conceived" the demonstration by 39 Labour MPs, on Wednesday night, which had prevented Mr Fowler being questioned by the Labour Front Bench on the emergency statement they had demanded.

Mr MEACHER, in reply, said that the demonstration, in which Leftwing MPs had stood in front of the Mace and refused

to go back to their seats, had been "spontaneous."

"The result has been more attention given to the enormous damage than would otherwise have been the case, and also we have had this debate today," he said.

Mr FOWLER said there could not be a clearer example of an attempt to stifle debate, and added that Mr Meacher, for having been a few feet from the demonstrators but having done nothing to stop it.

"The supreme indifference of the Opposition Front Bench to these tactics exactly mirrors their disregard for the lives of the people outside the House," he said. "It demonstrates why the Labour party will never form a government."

'Huge drop'
Mr MEACHER said the income of £15 to £16 a week in the amount deemed by the Government to have been paid by trade unions in strike pay and then deducted from benefits would mean the bitterness of the coalfields eight months into the strike.

It meant that the benefit for a striking miner with a wife and child would have been cut back to £16-05 a week, plus rent. It was a huge drop more than two-thirds below what was regarded as the State poverty line.

"It means victimising families and starving their children in order to weaken trade unions and force their members back to work by social starvation. It means treating families of strikers worse than any other category, including convicted criminals."

Moving a motion which accused the Government of having postponed announcing the deduction until the past possible moment in order to stifle debate, Mr MEACHER said he believed that the Government had not intended to make the announcement until yesterday, the day before implementation.

He declared that the loss of the £1 would be heart-breaking to people on the poverty line, and said: "Tory Ministers do not seem to realise the bishops do not enter into industrial disputes lightly, only when they believe deep moral issues are at stake."

"The provision of adequate fuel and housing for children and their mothers is one such issue."

'Frankly Indicrous'
Mr FOWLER said that, so far, £25 million had been paid out to the families of striking miners. In addition, rent and rates were paid in full, and there was also child benefit.

"It is frankly ludicrous to accuse the Government of pursuing a vindictive campaign against strikers' families. You

are the ones who are trying to force them back to work."

While a high court order had made it illegal for North Derbyshire miners to pay strike pay, the Minister had produced an Order which preferred the NUM was giving strike pay.

This was a fraud perpetrated by the Government in combination with the court.

Their argument that pits had to be closed on economic grounds was also a fraud. Nuclear power had never been profitable and it was subsidised by the Government.

Every unit of electricity generated by North Sea oil was 40 per cent more expensive than one produced from coal.

It was fraudulent to say pits were uneconomic, and the Government knew it. Their whole case against the NUM had been fraudulent.

Mr Benn accused the police of using intimidation and of instructions from the Home Secretary and complained that magistrates were using bail conditions fraudulently to take away the civil liberties of pickets.

'Tactical error'
Mr JOE ASHTON (Lab., Bassetlaw) said that whatever the headlines might say, 85 per cent of the miners who had come out on strike were still on strike.

The Government's decision to reduce strike benefit had been a major tactical error, because it had deterred miners from going back to work.

According to the Government, the unions should pay strike pay. "The wives and kids are not members of the union. They did not have a say in whether the union should be striking or not. Yet the Government is punishing them," he said.

Individual choice
Mr TONY NEWTON, Social Security Minister, said the Government had done no more in relation to its announcement about strike pay upratings than it had done for the previous four years.

The Government had been accused of being mean and vindictive, but he did not believe it was vindictive to say that the community should not have to pick up the whole of the bill in a situation where a man chose to deprive himself of the means of supporting his dependants.

"There has been no attempt whatever, nor will there be, by Ministers to lean on individual adjudicating officers to bend their decisions over who are within the existing rules."

Mr Newton accused the Labour Front Bench of hiding behind a smokescreen of the kind of "silly nonsense" seen in the House the previous week, to conceal the fact that they did not want to face up to the real issues involved in the miners' dispute, like the picket line violence.

The Labour motion was defeated by 279 votes to 185, a Government majority of 94.

Mr FOWLER: £1 million paid out to families of striking miners.

Mr MEACHER: Victimising families and starving their children to weaken unions.

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"What we need is an electronic typewriter."



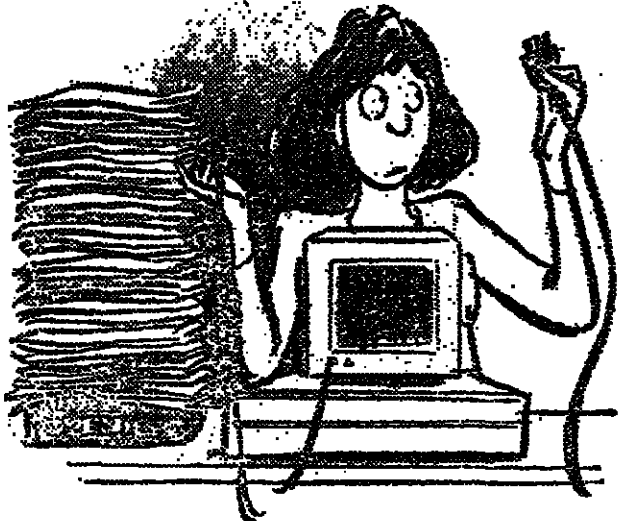
"What we need is a desk-top copier."



"What we need is a microcomputer."



"What we need is a compatible electronic printer."



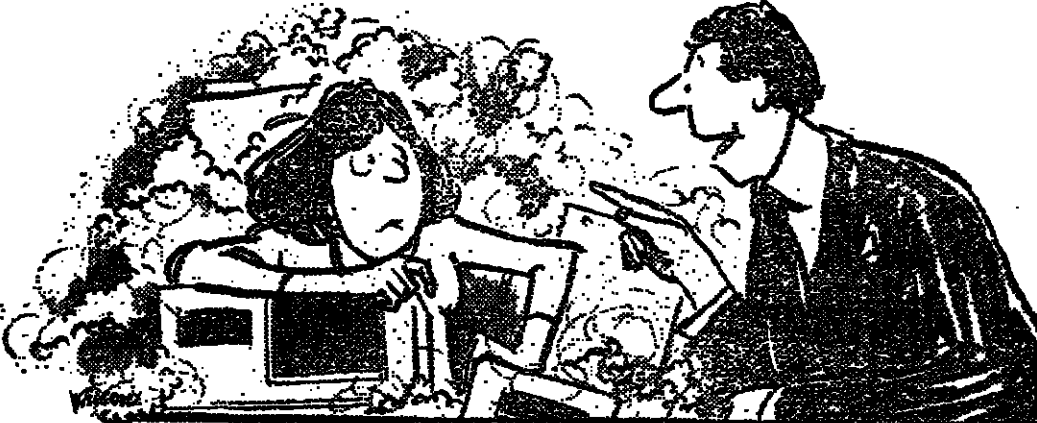
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Team Xerox

The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst is set in 700 acres of lovely countryside.

To have been there is a feather in anyone's cap.

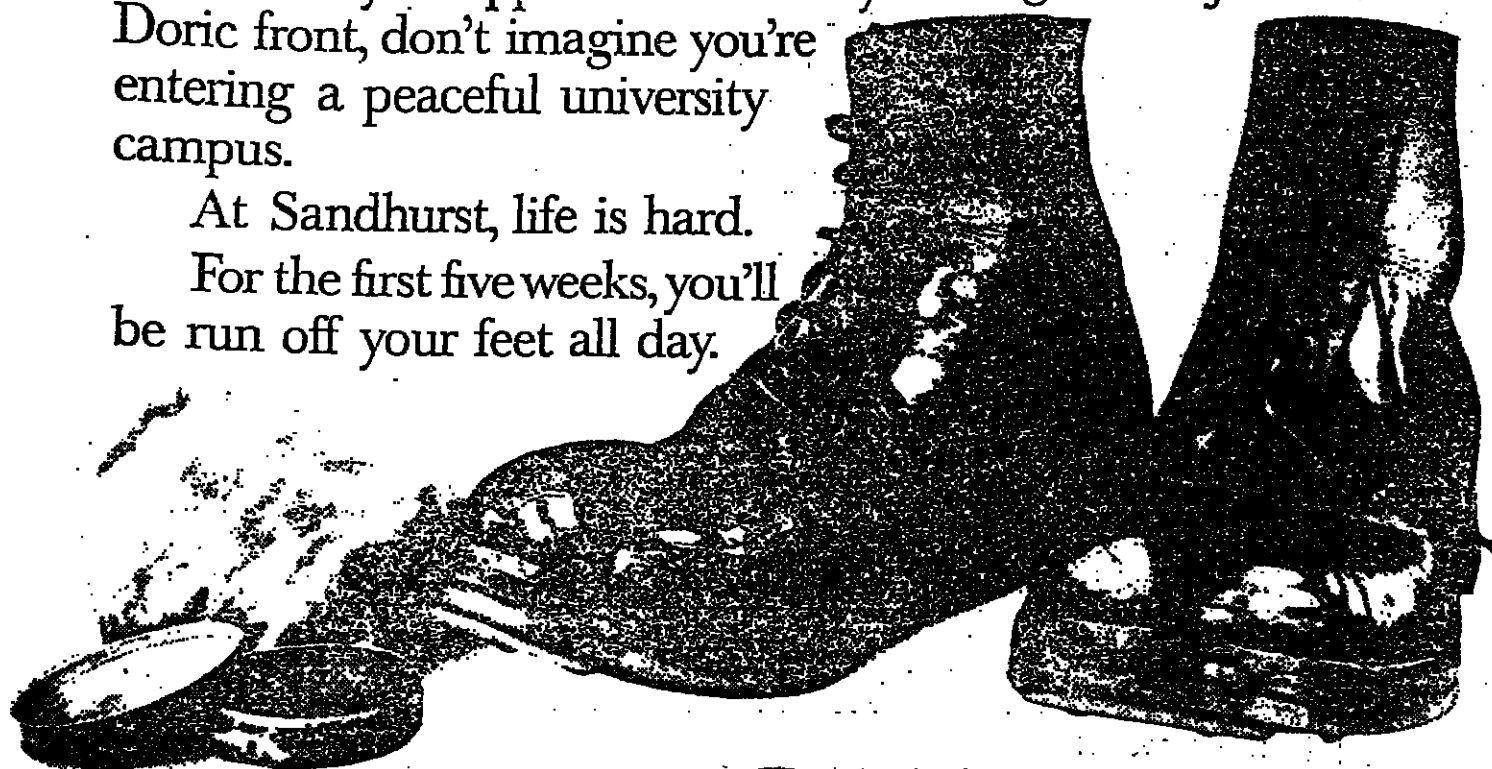
But as you approach its stately Doric front, don't imagine you're entering a peaceful university campus.

At Sandhurst, life is hard.

For the first five weeks, you'll be run off your feet all day.

physical limits.

And when you withdraw to the privacy of your own room, you will have studying to do on a wide range of subjects.



And you'll spend half the night boning up for the following day.

From the start, your staff sergeant will call you "sir." But that won't stop

Sandhurst. It's nice when it stops.

You'll be fitter and more alert than you ever thought possible.

You'll even find time for some of our many leisure activities.

And when you're on the passing-out parade, you'll be proud of yourself.

We don't know a single officer who isn't proud he went to Sandhurst.

If you think you can stay the course, write to Major John Floyd, Army Officer Entry, Department T26, Empress State Building, Lillie Road, London SW6 1TR.

Tell him your date of birth, your school, university, polytechnic or college of higher education and the qualifications you have or expect.

In return, we'll tell you more about getting into Sandhurst and the opportunities that lie beyond.



him telling you what a horrible little man you are, "sir!"

There are time-proven reasons why you have to put up with this sort of treatment.

To impose discipline, you must be able to take it yourself.

And in the stress of action, you'll need to obey orders instantly as well as hand them out. (Bear in mind that you could be leading men in dangerous situations a few weeks after you're commissioned.)

During your period of training at Sandhurst, you'll be pushed to your

Sandhurst is, after all, an academy. And now more than ever an officer needs a well-furnished brain. Weapons systems are complex, and your soldiers will need intelligent management.

At all stages, you'll be encouraged to develop the potential for leadership which we found in you at the Regular Commissions Board.

And because our officer cadets are so carefully chosen, the failure rate is low.

Life at Sandhurst is by no means all pain.

You'll make life-long friendships.



 **Army Officer**

Unequalled in its range of job opportunities



Design Engineering

The Filton site of British Aerospace Aircraft Group is the UK management centre for the multi-national Airbus jetliner programmes, with particularly important responsibilities on the design and manufacture of the high-technology wing for the new A320 jetliner and major commitments on the BAe 146 jetliner and other aircraft. The consequent increase in our activities leads to a number of new opportunities in various departments. In particular, we have the following vacancies in our Design Engineering Organisation.

Systems Engineers

Qualified Mechanical or Aeronautical Engineers, preferably with at least three years' experience in electro-mechanical, fluid or general mechanical systems. The successful applicants will assist in producing technical definitions of the fuel systems for the A320 jetliner. This will include overall system definition in terms of fuel load, refuelling, aircraft balance, heat sink etc, design of tanks, engine feed system and fuel guaging, and the definition and selection of essential equipment.

Electrical Systems Engineer

Applicants should be qualified Electrical Engineers, preferably with aircraft experience and a good practical and theoretical background, who would be interested in expanding their experience into specialised areas of test and investigation. The work will include report writing, systems testing, and interface with production activities.

Avionics Engineers

Qualified Avionics Engineers, preferably with at least three years' experience, are required in the following areas of aircraft design: Flight Dynamics, Digital Avionics, Real-time Software Engineering, Dynamic Modelling Techniques. Applications are invited from engineers with a good theoretical and practical background, willing to expand into these areas, where the work will include testing and interface with equipment vendors.

Stress and Structure Engineers

Qualified to degree standard or equivalent, and with five years' experience, for multi-disciplinary Structures Department, where advanced techniques and computer-aided design aids are in everyday use. It is essential to have experience in at least one of the following areas: Stressing, Structural Analysis, Fatigue, Fail-safe, Static Strength, Stiffness.

Structural, Mechanical and Systems Installation Designers

who have served an engineering apprenticeship and have at least five years' experience of aircraft structures, mechanical or systems installations design, to work in a multi-discipline Design Office. Applicants should be capable of seeing through designs from scheme stage to finished product. The Design Office has a growing CAD capability and applicants with an interest in the field will be given full opportunities.

Metallurgist

Qualified to degree level, to join the Material and Chemical Services Laboratory, which provides a comprehensive service to manufacturing, quality, design and development departments throughout the site. The wide-ranging work includes acceptance of incoming material, heat treatment, welding, NDT and mechanical testing, metallography, fractography, and failure analysis. Although chiefly concerned with aerospace structural materials (aluminium, magnesium, titanium alloys), there is considerable involvement with proprietary parts and equipment. The laboratory, which is NATLAS-approved has comprehensive facilities for scanning and optical microscopy, X-ray analysis, NDT, and automated mechanical testing, and applicants should be familiar with all the equipment and techniques involved. Ability to communicate at all levels and to write detailed technical reports to a good standard is important.

Systems Programmers

Qualified to degree or equivalent in Engineering and/or Mathematics with computing subjects. Successful candidates will work on Technical Office application programmes, including data base systems. Applicants should have at least one year's experience in FORTRAN programming and some familiarity with PDP RSX11 or VAX VMS systems would be an advantage.

NDT Technician

Combining a practical disposition with sound theoretical understanding of non-destructive testing and preferably qualified to degree level in Physics, to join our Materials and Chemical Services Laboratory. The successful applicant will work in a section providing practical support to departments concerned with structural testing, airline servicing, advanced manufacturing design, and production engineering, principally employing ultrasonic and eddy-current methods of testing. Other duties include assessment and application of developing NDT techniques, such as ultrasonography and acoustic emission, for the examination of new and existing materials, manufacturing methods and structures.

In the majority of the above posts, successful applicants will be involved in liaison with Airbus partners in France, Germany and Spain, in discussions with the Airworthiness Authorities, and in engineering support for the aircraft in airline service.

Conditions of employment include a first-class contributory pension scheme, sick pay and life assurance schemes, and excellent welfare, social and sports facilities.

Filton is on the northern outskirts of the City of Bristol with excellent motorway and rail links with London, the Midlands, Wales and the West. The site is within easy access of pleasant residential areas and all the amenities of Bristol itself.

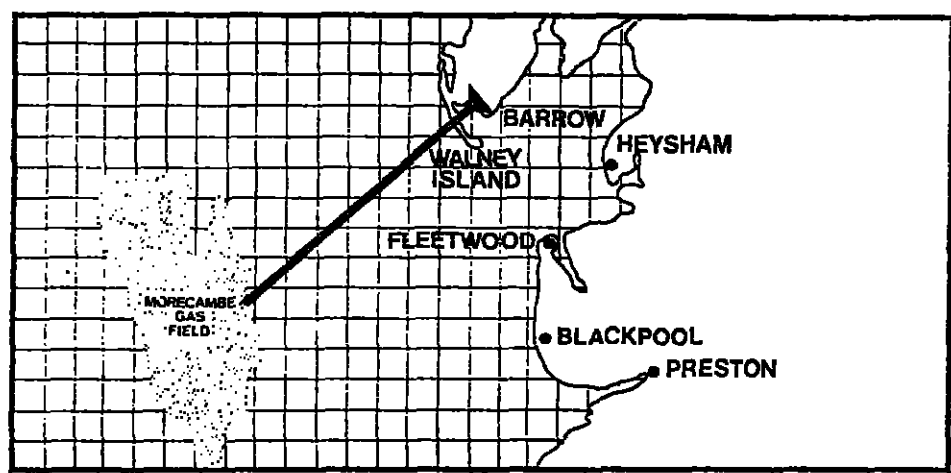
If necessary, the successful applicants will be given help in meeting expenses involved in moving to the Bristol area, generous relocation allowances being available in appropriate circumstances.

For an application form, please telephone or write to:-

Employment Manager (Ref: AIR/32)
British Aerospace Aircraft Group,
Filton House, Bristol BS99 7AR
Tel: Bristol 693637
Ext. 140

BRITISH AEROSPACE
AIRCRAFT GROUP Bristol

Morecambe Field Operations • Offshore Engineering on a grand scale



British Gas has major opportunities for experienced professionals in its developing operations in the Morecambe Field, some 26 miles offshore Blackpool. One of Britain's largest offshore gas fields with an estimated 5 trillion cubic feet of gas in reserve, the Morecambe Field represents an on-going billion pound investment: an engineering and operational challenge, the equal of any in the world. With two production/drilling platforms already linked and the modules of a third awaiting hook-up, we are specifically looking for the following specialists:

Shift Production Engineer

To be responsible for the Senior Engineer (Production) for the day or night Shift Operations of all facilities and process equipment on the platform. Duties include the direction of all piggings operations to and from the platform and supervising the operation of the offshore control room during the shifts. The successful candidate will be required to control work directly in the event of an emergency. Some five years' experience in an offshore production position including supervisory responsibility is essential. Ref: REA/125/079.

Assistant Well Services Engineer

To be responsible for the Senior Engineer (Production) for the efficient safe and economic operation of specialist well-

servicing - in the functional line reporting to the Well Services Engineer. Duties involve testing (subsurface) and supervision of non-routine operations. Extensive offshore experience is essential, plus hands-on experience of well servicing. Ref: REA/124/079.

Maintenance Engineers Instrumentation/Electrical/Mechanical

To be responsible for the Senior Maintenance Engineer, with responsibility for planning the maintenance programme in their specific discipline, and then selecting, directing and inspecting the work of skilled technicians. Duties include management of offshore shifts and being on call in the event of maintenance and repair emergencies. Extensive experience in an offshore maintenance position including supervisory responsibilities is essential. Refs: REA/121/079, REA/122/079, and REA/123/079 respectively.

In addition to specific requirements, applicants for each position will be expected to have at least an HNC/HND level of education in an appropriate discipline. Starting salaries and benefits package will be commensurate with experience and qualifications, including relocation assistance to the Heysham area where appropriate.

To apply, please write with full career details and quoting the appropriate reference number, to: Assistant Personnel Manager (HQ Services), British Gas, 59 Bryanston Street, London W1A 2AZ.

BRITISH GAS

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National Retail Sales Manager Electronic Consumer Products

Our clients, who are well known manufacturers of electrical and electronic products for the domestic market, are currently seeking an energetic and enthusiastic professional to spearhead their development into the retail market. This new appointment will be located in the Greater London conurbation.

The successful applicant will report to the Head of Marketing, with direct responsibility for both the development of the company's retail sales force, and for the penetration of the product range into the multiple electrical retail stores, DIY centres, supermarkets etc. Other responsibilities include the preparation of sales targets and marketing promotions and close liaison with the marketing staff responsible for preparing promotional literature and point of sale material. This position will include directing the company's activity in the merchandising of products and the training of retailers' staff.

Job applicants (male or female) must possess experience in a similar role - gained in a consumer oriented product market sector, and offer a proven record in the development of a retail sales team. Extensive knowledge and a good working relationship with principal retailers in the electrical and DIY sectors are essential. Age range 30-45 years.

An attractive salary reflecting the importance attached to this new, challenging appointment, and a good employment package will be offered. A company car will be provided. Assistance towards relocation expenses where appropriate.

Please write briefly outlining experience, qualifications, age and current earnings to:-
Peter Roberts
Park Christopher Associates
BCM PCA London WC1X 3AA
(Please list those organisations to whom your application should not be forwarded.)

Senior Systems Analyst c.£23,000

Our client is an important British Group with extensive overseas interests, including a major contract for the provision of a wide range of support services to a Middle East air force. The Group now wishes to appoint a Senior Systems Analyst whose primary function will be to advise the air force on the planning, introduction and management of all computer systems required to support its operations.

The ideal candidates for this position would be former Wing Commanders or Group Captains of the Supply Branch of the Royal Air Force, with extensive management experience in the development of large computer systems. A degree or Staff College qualification is essential. A salary of at least £23,000 per annum is offered for this position and will be tax-free, providing the usual conditions of overseas service are fulfilled. Salaries are reviewed annually, and the successful applicant will also receive free bachelor/married accommodation and medical care. There are very good leisure facilities in the area in which the post is based, and generous UK leave is given, with airline travel paid.

Please write with full details, listing separately any companies to whom your application should not be forwarded. All applications will be treated in confidence.

Mr R. Jones,
Image in Industry Ltd.,
2/3 Gough Square, Fleet Street, London EC4.
No telephone enquiries can be accepted.

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35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH
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Due to our Client's expanding activities in these fields, they are now looking for a number of experienced individuals who can fully justify the remuneration package we will pay.

MANAGERS up to c. £30,000 + car
SUPERVISORY AND SENIOR CLERICAL up to c. £20,000
CLERICAL up to c. £11,000

For these settlement specialists, there will be a high degree of job satisfaction and excellent working conditions in modern offices using the latest equipment. Also, as our Client continues to develop and reference 16206/DT stating clearly which level and promotion prospects are bright. Applications in strict confidence under reference 16206/DT, to the Security Manager, who will not be sent in a covering letter marked for the attention of the Security Manager.

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ADMINISTRATION CONTROLLER - FINANCIAL SERVICES

£19,000-£25,000

EXPANDING INTERNATIONAL COMPANY - IN THE FINANCIAL SERVICES FIELD

This vacancy calls for candidates aged 35-42 who have acquired not less than 6 years practical experience in administration, involving high volume document processing and at least 2 years either heading up, or as the number two, controlling and managing a team of 50+, utilising modern business systems. The successful candidate will report to the Managing Director and will be part of the Senior Management Team. Close liaison will be maintained with heads of Marketing, Data Processing and the Financial Controller. The ability to lead, motivate, relate effectively to clients, and play a significant commercial role in the company's continued growth and profitability is important. Initial salary negotiable £19,000-£25,000, + car, contributory pension, free medical insurance, and free life assurance assistance with removal expenses if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference ACFS 4298/DT, to the Security Manager.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON ASSOCIATES (MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS) 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH. TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 or 588 3576. Telex: 887374. FAX: 01-588 9216.

CHIEF PRODUCTION ENGINEER - LIGHT/MEDIUM ENGINEERING

£14,000-£16,500

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We invite applications from chartered mechanical/producers or equivalent, aged 30+, with at least 4/5 years demanding experience in a responsible production engineering, engineering, or equivalent, role involving the design and development of new products. It is important that during this experience a thorough understanding of technical matters will have been developed as well as successful man-management skills. The prime responsibilities of the selected candidate, who will report to a member of the management team, will be the preparation of future capital investment programmes on a five, three and one year basis; control of the planning department and carrying out special investigations, with particular emphasis on plant modernisation and utilisation. Essential qualities are the ability to have creative and practical engineering ideas, to introduce these ideas into a commercial way, to be a self-starter, be able to motivate other people and above all to have commonsense and to be articulate. Initial salary negotiable £14,000-£16,500, contributory pension, free life assurance and BUPA, assistance with removal expenses if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference CPE16124/DT will be forwarded unopened to our Client unless you list companies to which they should not be sent in a covering letter marked for the attention of the Security Manager.

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ALL YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS...



A LOT of the hard work of Christmas can be minimised by forward planning and getting other people to do the things that it isn't vital to do yourself.

Children of 10 can make up the Wendy cracker kit with ease. It contains bangers, mottoes, stiffening cards, lining and crepe papers. The Victorian cut-out Father Christmas scraps are also provided for decorating the front of the crackers. The 12-cracker kit is available by mail from Wendy Gifts, P.O. Box 47, Henlow, Beds, price £1.50. Please send a large stamped addressed envelope.

If you want something unusual to put inside, the oddly-named Curious Caterpillar. By Post specialises in unusual bran-tub and stocking fillers. The dimensions are given, so it is easy to judge what will fit inside a cracker. A varied selection of repellent insects can be bought for 3p while 50p buys a wooden jig-saw.

Stocking fillers include folding binoculars at 51p, inflatable parrots at 55p, cork-screw earrings for 55p and an unerring sort worm that moves in its box for 58p. Write to: Curious Caterpillar, by Post, 102 Bancroft, Hitchin, Herts, for the catalogue.

Home-made crackers, of course, are the perfect way for children to present small, home-made gifts to friends. Grow-

DIY: its a cracker of an idea

ups can give their gifts in crackers, too.

Asprey is one shop that will put presents of a suitable size, measuring not more than 1 1/4 inches by 5 inches or 6 inches, in glamorous frilly white crackers banded with purple and green.

Not everything is of the gold-whistle variety. There are French ballpens with mock tortoiseshell, coral or lapis lazuli cases (£12.25), a gift combination padlock for £7.50, and one of those slender purple lacquer lighters for £17.95. Asprey, 165/169 New Bond Street, London W.1.

If the Christmas pudding has not been gathering flavour in some remote cupboard, it is better to serve an alternative than risk an immature specimen.

Shop-bought puddings often fail to please and even the National Trust's traditional sphere last Christmas displeased a friend who had been buying them since they were first introduced.

Lady Elizabeth Anson of Party Planners wrote to

tell us about the Italian ice-cream pudding made by Grangelato, which has an ice-cream parlour in Knightsbridge.

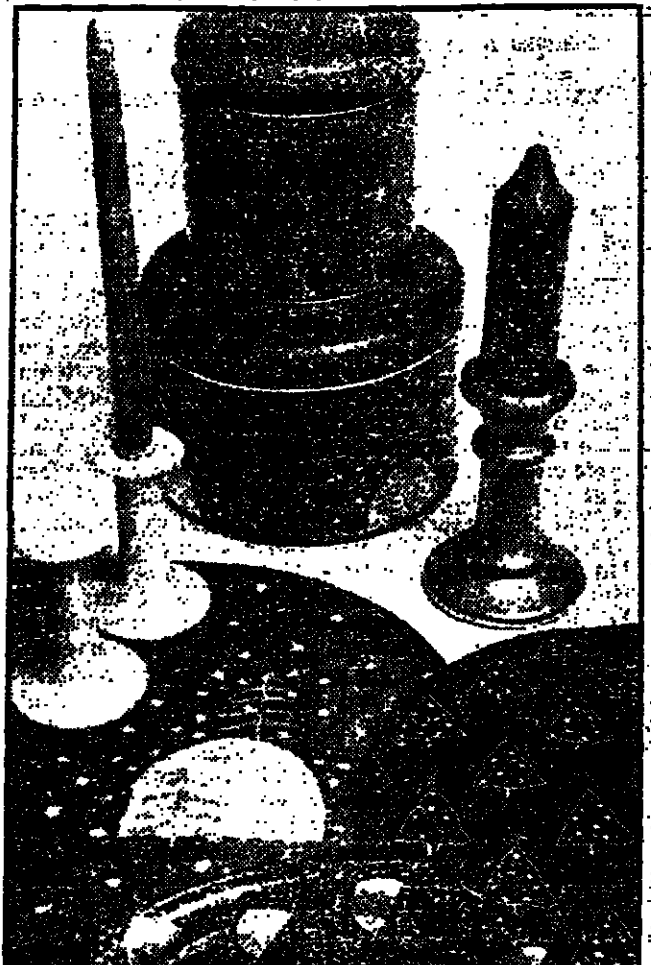
Made of layers of fresh chocolate and toffee ice-cream, interestingly laced with mixed fruit and rum, the pudding costs £9.50. Grangelato—at 7/9 Montpelier Street, London SW7—is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday to Saturday, and the pudding is packed in a large polystyrene box to keep it chilled.

Among the good selection in Marks and Spencer's food departments this Christmas are some special Christmas foods. Belgian chocolates, a chocolate Father Christmas, jars of preserved ginger, pineapple and pecan cake, marzipan cakes, Stollen, Yule logs, snowman cakes, brandy butter and smoked salmon sides, give a flavour of good choice.

A company called Porth of Tonymandy, Mid-Glamorgan, has made the largest artificial Christmas tree in the world for The Hotel Marriott in Amman. It is 25 feet high, 12 feet in diameter and weighs 350 kilos, but Porth also makes a huge range of fir, cypress or spruce flame-retardant trees with a two-toned, soft-needle effect or snow capped.

A complete Santa outfit includes a red suit, hat, belt and adjustable beard, £5.99 from stockists including Woolworths and Texas Homecare.

It has taken a Frenchman, Jean-Pierre Depesme, to make the perfect Christmas pud. His is rich but not heavy and predictably anointed with sherry, rum, brandy and cider. Packed in a china basin which is enclosed in a festive red box, the puddings cost £6.50 each. Other



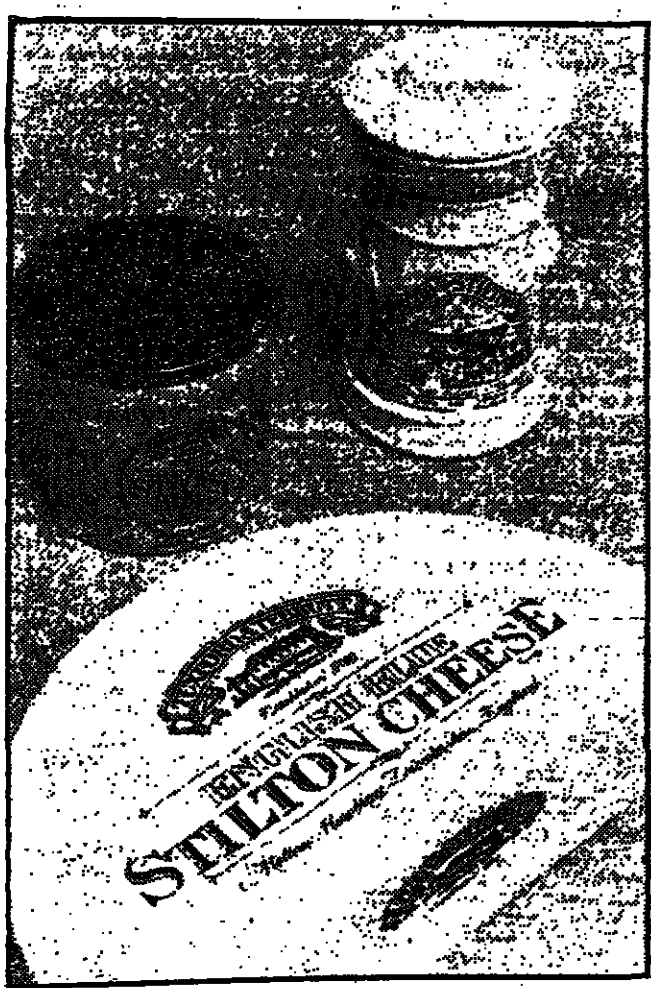
good things available include Christmas cakes with soft or Royal icing and a variety of food gifts.

The port and Stilton gift pack is good value at £18.50 — £2.50 cheaper than is charged at some London stores — as Jean-Pierre is quick to point out. This contains 15oz cheese and a bottle of fine Old Tawny Port. Hampers cost from £35 to £85. Write to: Jean-Pierre's Pantry, 65 Queenstown Road, London, S.W.8. For his mail order leaflet which also gives details of his frozen food service and outside catering.

• Danish tableware by Sodahl in two designs featuring gold and white patterns on rich red. Two tins (top) £2.65 and £5.30 depending on size. White pearl candlesticks (left), £2.50 each and bronze candlesticks 99p. Tubby red candle dotted with snowflakes 99p, in gold candlestick, £3.25. Bottom: large table-centre mat, £7 and quilted placemat, £3.50. Just showing, tin tray at £2.99, from Dickens and Jones, Regent Street, London W.1; Fenwick, Newcastle upon Tyne; Goldbags, Glasgow, and Marshalls, York. Some items, including lengths of matching fabric to make matching tablecloths, available from Fenwick Direct, Capel Farmhouse, Petham, Canterbury, Kent.

BY ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON

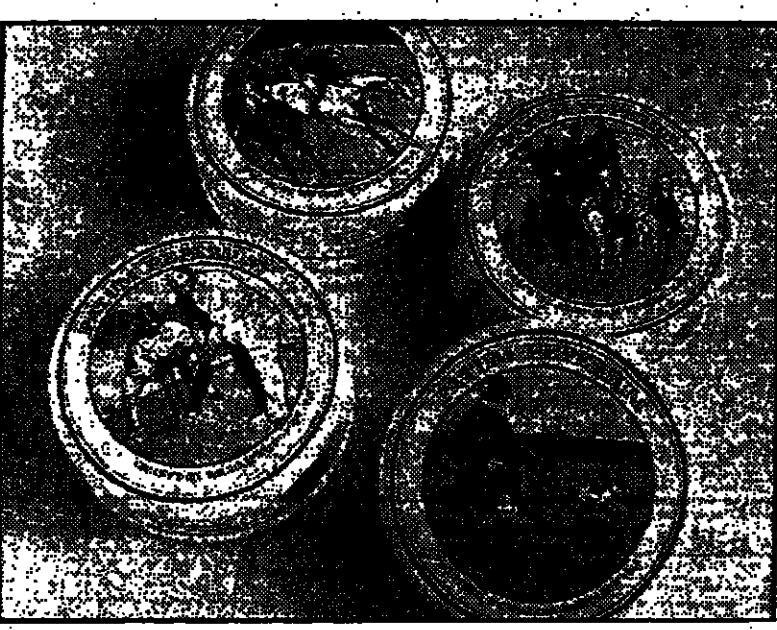
Pictures by KENNETH MASON



Presentable ways of putting the lid on it

THE history of Patum Peperum, The Gentleman's Relish, is a complicated one. Created by John Osborne in 1828, it was eaten by the landed gentry for breakfast. In the late nineteenth-century, it was still a family business with the recipe held in trust by two surviving elderly brothers who each knew half of the recipe. Together they went to Eleanham Quality Foods and asked the firm if it would be interested in continuing making the anchovy paste that had made the family fortune.

Eleanham made the mistake of putting the stately paste in plastic, an error it has since rectified by putting it in opal glass. But the latest gift packaging for Eleanham is



Four Nicholson prints top these pots, which cost £5.99 each from stockists which include Harrods, Fortnum and Mason and good grocers around the country.

better than anything which went before.

Reproduced on the lid are four masterly woodcuts by William Nicholson, that most English of artists. Jonathan Dent, who was inspired by Eleanham to produce some new designs for their comic pots, decided that Nicholson was exactly in the spirit of the time when Gentleman's Relish was a Victorian favourite savoury.

Why design something new when original illustrations taken from Nicholson's "An Almanack of All Sports," existed to inspire contemporary shoppers? The pots are likely to be kept for

their handsome, traditional appearance, as much as for keeping the delicious paste inside.

Stilton made no introduction to most people, though they may not realise its ancient lineage. According to Patrick Rance's "The Great Cheese Book," it was first mentioned at the time of Elizabeth Scarborough, who was housekeeper to the Ashlys at Quenby Hall, Huntingdon, near Leicester.

It was known at that time as Lady Beaumont's cheese and she learnt how to make it herself, as they did at Quenby Hall. In the first quarter of the 18th century, it was sold

to the Bell Inn at Stilton in Huntingdonshire. Its fame spread through the coach travellers on the London-York road and Stilton became well known for the delicious cheese it served.

Today it has an international reputation and is made by the old established members of The Stilton Cheese Makers' Association in Leicester, Derby and Nottingham.

Although there is nothing to compare with a hunk of Stilton cut off a well-matured round, the cheese makers tempt our appetites by packing it in traditional ceramic pots nice to give at Christmas-time.

ON THE SCENT OF HELPFUL HERBS

THE GROWTH of interest in herbs, both as natural cures for minor ailments and for use in the kitchen, has been orchestrated by a large number of superficial books on the subject.

But Sarah Garland's "The Herb Garden" (Windward, £3.95) gives a rounded view of herbs, revealing them in their true context as curers of all kinds of illnesses, in earlier periods, and as decorative plants that enhance the garden.

The author writes that she has found many of the old medicinal herbs growing unrecognised on rubbish tips and roadsides. Motherwort, greater celandine, herbaceous and black horehound are not generally found in the herb sections at garden centres but they were once among the best known of the natural healers.

Her book is sensibly divided into well-planned

sections with suggestions for planting family herb gardens and collectors' gardens, including one which she visited at Alderley Grange, of which she writes: "The air is heavy with scent. Old prostrate rosemarys spread across the gravel at the entrance, woodruff and sweet cicely grow thickly at the foot of the wall, lemon verbena and h'm of Gilead bushes are planted in pots."

The photographs of existing herb gardens make you want to rush out immediately and plant one of your own.

We cannot all aspire to the grand herb garden flourishes of the Renaissance but Sarah Garland does give ideas that we can all copy. Five-foot-long miniature knot gardens, brick paths edged with herbs, a cascading froth of herbs for a sloping brick terrace and hardy herb borders featuring pale, silver herbs are some of the ideas that will make herbalists of us all.

BOOK REVIEW

THE FESTIVE FLOWERS THAT NEVER FADE AWAY



TABLE decorations and flowers always seem to wilt at Christmas in the blast of central heating.

Marks and Spencer is selling a new range of everlasting table decorations such as bonsai trees (left) poinsettias, azaleas and other plants in pots (right) and fabric flowers that will see you through several years' Christmas celebrations.

Poinsettias cost £3.99, azaleas £4.99, green plants £3.99 and bonsai £9.99. All are available from selected branches.

Sketch by PAUL KERN



WHAT'S NEW

SINCE we published the address of two London charity card shops — the Institute, EC2, and St Bishopsgate, EC4 — the Charity James's Church Council has added to its retail stockists in the capital.

Now cards can also be bought from Devonshire House, Stratton Street, Piccadilly, W.1; 22-30 Holborn Viaduct, EC4; 458 Strand, WC2 (Golden Cross House, opposite Charing Cross Station); and 100 Tottenham Court Road, W.1. Most of the shops are open from 10 a.m.

to 5 p.m. (sometimes later), from Monday to Saturday, with late opening in Piccadilly until 7 p.m. on Thursdays.

• M.K. Electric has issued a timely warning for electric consumers and points out that 40 per cent of all deaths caused by fire occur in December, January and February.

The firm recommends that fairy lights should be checked for correct wiring and should not be left on continuously.

Avoid multi-outlet adaptors — which mushroom at Christmas as people are impatient to try out new presents — trailing flexes, and cheap imported plugs which may not have sleeved pins which stop fingers coming into contact with current and secure terminal clamping to prevent flexes being pulled out of position.

• W. H. Smith's idea for solving the overseas present problem is to sell Girogift vouchers for the most popular

department stores in Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

These vouchers are issued in the relevant dollar currency in five, ten or twenty-five dollar denominations. A service charge of £1.55 is included.

To make sure these arrive in time for Christmas, vouchers sent by airmail should be posted by December 2. They are available from W. H. Smith branches, excluding station bookshops and airport branches.



THEIR HEALTH IS OUR CONCERN

The Animal Health Trust is striving towards preventing or curing diseases which cause needless distress in animals.

Each year hundreds of "patients" are referred to us for help. From their case histories vets and scientists at the Trust build detailed pictures of the problems. This knowledge is passed to vets in practice so that many other animals benefit — a unique service which helps animals and their owners everywhere.

We get no Government support, and we are in great need. So whatever you are able to give — by way of a donation, covenant or legacy — please act now. Many, many thanks.

THE ANIMAL HEALTH TRUST
PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
Dept. DT, Lawlades Hall, Kennett, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7PN.
Tel. 0638 751030
Incorporated by Royal Charter Registered Charity No. 205542

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1984

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VODKA AND CARROTS

MR KINNOCK HAS EVERY RIGHT to be pleased with himself for having been granted an audience with President CHERNENKO in the Kremlin after being given the sort of treatment accorded to backwater Third World leaders, but it would be foolish to attach too much importance to the meeting. That it took place at all has less to do with Labour's anti-nuclear defence policy (which the Soviet Union almost certainly treats as a joke) than with Mr KINNOCK's wish to put himself about a bit on the international circuit and show the West that Mr GROMYKO is not the only one in the Politburo who knows something about foreign policy. Thus Mr KINNOCK's wisecracks about LENIN (no laughing matter, this time, to the serious men who run Russia), and any misunderstandings about what he and Mr HEALEY were told across the green baize table, will be overlooked, at least for the moment.

If Messrs KINNOCK and HEALEY can be believed—and Messrs POOT and HEALEY made a frightful hash of their briefing in the Kremlin a few years ago and finished up peddling Soviet propaganda—Mr CHERNENKO's line was that it was time for "new thinking" in the United States-Soviet relations in order to "normalise" relations and achieve arms control. Mr CHERNENKO apparently seeks a resumption of the détente of the late 1970s. This seems to have impressed Mr KINNOCK but he should recall that it was during this period that Soviet-backed forces invaded or seized control of South Vietnam, Angola, Ethiopia and Cambodia, and then came Afghanistan which killed stone-dead détente. Restraining such Soviet behaviour was why President REAGAN was elected, and re-elected.

Nevertheless it is the Kremlin's mood music that is ultimately much more interesting for East-West relations than any offers or proposals or initiatives put forward yesterday. It was surely predictable that the Russians would have a small carrot or two up their sleeve to go with the vodka and caviar. These are irrelevant carrots. The real test of Soviet intentions will come in Geneva in January at a meeting which could lead to serious arms control negotiations with America.

SIR KEITH. PURSUED BY HORNETS

SIR KEITH JOSEPH is that rarity among politicians: a man whose faith in the power of rational argument remains unshaken by a lifetime's exposure to the rough old world of politics. Long before he entered the portals of the Department of Education he had been intellectually convinced of the inequity of a system whereby a small minority in each generation was enabled to enhance its future prospects through further education paid for by the mass of taxpayers including those themselves denied that chance. His preference—and again a logical preference at that—was to move over from a régime of student grants to one of student loans. But this solution was eventually blackballed. He then fell back upon the proposition that upper-income families should lose entitlement to grant, and pay towards the cost of tuition also; and stepped straight into a political hornets' nest.

As MARGOT NORMAN documents elsewhere on this page, some middle-class parents thus find themselves confronted overnight with the prospect that their bill for two children over the next university year will come to £4,000 instead of less than half that sum. Hardly surprisingly, Tory MPs find their post-boxes jammed with furious protests from normally dependable supporters who could fall prey to temptation from the Liberals and the S.D.P. If there were to be an upset in the current by-election in North London, many Tories would not look far for their scapegoat.

In the judgment of this newspaper student loans would have produced a better answer. But since this answer was rejected, the Cabinet should now be prepared to grit its teeth and give Sir Keith its backing. Since the proposition was accepted that entitlement to student grant was properly the subject of a parental means test, it has really followed logically that the full cost should be met by parents deemed to be in a position to afford it. The trade-off between means and contribution is obviously a matter for argument. But a party which believes in the enhancement of personal provision in preference to the centralised allocation of resources should not shrink from charging those best able to afford it the fair cost of privileged advancement.

BACK TO BASICS

SPEECHES DEFENDING DEMOCRACY—like Mrs Thatcher's Carlton lecture, delivered yesterday, which bore the optimistic title "Why Democracy Will Last"—suffer from the disadvantage that today everybody officially supports democracy. The most brutal post-war dictator lacks the candour and self-confidence of HITLER and MUSSOLINI. He hastens to call himself a "People's Democracy". Our apprentice dictators at home go one better and accuse the hesitant governors of the liberal democratic State of "creeping authoritarianism" or "Gestapo tactics". At the level of unexamined platitudes, then, democracy is universally admired. This poses a problem for the conventional democratic politician. A speech on the topic inevitably sounds either like a string of platitudes or like a hysterical over-reaction, crying "wolf" when some Left-wing sheep barks its teeth. It must be said that Mrs Thatcher's effusion was not entirely free of the first defect. But few critics are likely to make the second complaint when mobs are burning houses or beating up dissenting unionists in order to compel a change of Government policy.

In defending democracy, then, more is required today than merely praising it. Its enemies must be countered both theoretically and practically. The theoretical opposition to it comes mainly from people who are so convinced of both the rightness and the urgency of their position that they believe it overrides the rules of the democratic game. "Survival," this argument runs, "is more important than democracy." Indeed, it is. To answer the criticism directly: if survival is so vital, then the views of the majority on how to ensure it should prevail. Mrs Thatcher's main argument last night—that the majority sometimes needs to be protected against over-mighty minorities—was something which, in the cant phrase, really needed saying. But it also needs acting upon. Denunciations of local councils which defy the law are worse than useless if those denunciations are then followed by granting half the councils' demands. And resistance to strike violence is equally futile if it is not accompanied by appropriate punishment. Democracy is not hostile to authority. They require each other.

Squeezing the student grant until parental votes squeak

WHEN bank managers start telephoning the National Union of Students to ask for advice on a financial problem—namely how to find the cash to put an elder son through university without having to take the younger one away from public school—then it is clear that the latest changes in the student grant regulations are causing a bit of a panic.

Tory backbenchers feel extremely uneasy about letters from their party's nearest and dearest, the middle class, middle-income voters who want their children to get on in the world, which accuse the Government of bringing in a punitive system of what is, in effect, socialist taxation aimed more surely at them than anything the last Labour Government dreamt up.

Most are too hazy about the old grant regulations to assess the real impact of the changes wrought over two years by Sir Keith Joseph and his junior Minister, Peter Brooke, but they take it seriously when they are told: "From now on, only the very poor and the very rich will be able to send their children to university."

In 1985 parents with a "residual" income (before tax but after deductions for mortgage interest, superannuation and life insurance premiums) of between £7,000 and £9,000 were expected to contribute one pound in every seven they earned to their student offspring's maintenance. Above £9,000 the scale fell away to one pound in eight and then, above £14,500, to one in 15. Everyone got a minimum grant of £410, students' travel costs were reimbursed in full and, although the full grant was barely enough for a student to live on, middle class parents were still able to assume that the cost of their children's higher education could more or less be met from petty cash. In effect, it was being met by a subsidy from the mass of taxpayers who earned less than they did.

THIS year the scales were altered to spare the poor and start hitting the better off, the minimum grant was halved, life insurance stopped being deductible and a ceiling was put on travel costs. Next year there will be no minimum grant, the scales are steeper again (£1 in £4 for all households bringing in a residual income over £15,000) and those earning £20,000 or so will for the first time have to pay tuition fees of £520.

The sort of working couple who might have been able, with careful long-term planning, to afford independent day school fees had better start planning for a similar outlay—say, £9,000 for a three-year degree course—when their children are 18 and in the eyes of the law, independent. They had also better believe it when Sir Keith says he is not going to set out on the route to charging them full tuition fees, currently £5,500 a year for an art student and £7,500 for a medic.

The snag, of course, is that there is no time to plan. Take

Mr O., a middle-ranking civil servant married to a teacher, whose two daughters started their degree courses last month. At Easter he consulted his local authority handbook on student grants, clearly marked 1984, and calculated that he would have to find £1,912 for the girls this year. His calculations were correct, but the local authority had bad news for him: full details of the 1984-5 grant regulations had only just come through from central Government, and would be pleased to see his revised contribution would be £3,621.

Mr O. soon afterwards suffered a mild heart attack, from which

Holland nor the United States provided much over £200.

A mixed system of grants and loans was usual for our industrial rivals, but William Waldegrave's attempt at a British version of this mixture was rejected as being both too expensive (because of the slow pay-back) and politically unacceptable. Hence the hurry to bring in the Joseph/Brooke package, that is being called "loans by the back door."

Lewis Elton, professor of education at Surrey University, accepts that our 22-year-old grant arrangements are in the long run untenable. He believes that young adults will not simply revert to asking their parents for every penny like children, but will look for term-time earnings instead. He sees the universities employing them to help run the campus, as American colleges do, and he sees the institutions extending courses to four years in order to maintain standards while students do all this earning. That would dramatically increase the Government's higher education bills.

Many in the pro-loans lobby think the pressure will be exerted in the opposite direction, for two-year degree courses. They believe the higher education establishment to be wrong in its virtually unanimous rejection of two-year degree courses and they expect to see standards maintained by means of long terms and short holidays. Since this system will give students no opportunity to earn as they learn, they presumably also foresee new graduates with large debts who will demand higher starting salaries. (American graduates receive an average starting salary of getting on for \$30,000—about £24,000—these days.)

Are we approaching the day when universities will be for the very rich or the very poor, asks

MARGOT NORMAN

he was still recovering a fortnight ago when the outline regulations for next year were announced. He had just worked out that his contribution would leap as a result to £6,125—more than a threefold increase over two years—when he was saved from an early grave by the news that Peter Brooke had put a top limit of £4,000 on contributions from any one family.

Mr Brooke, who is a shrewd politician, presumably thought it was worth passing up the booty he could have collected from millionaires with several children in order to preserve the health and party loyalty of families earning £22,000 or so. Some backbenchers fear he may have miscalculated. About 53,000 families with student offspring will have to find an extra £725 next year and altogether 180,000 families will be worse off to varying degrees.

Naturally it would take more than the few pounds it will cost those at the lower end, earning about £13,000, to turn lifelong Tories into Alliance voters. But 180,000 families probably constitute more than half a million voters (mother, father and student) with a grouse, and the number leaves out of account those who were hit last year and all those with children going to college between now and the next election.

It also leaves out of account the geographical distribution of families who could previously have counted on a minimum grant and who will therefore have to dig deepest in their pockets. Yet the Government had to do something to halt the rising cost of student grants. International comparisons for a base year of 1979, carefully worked out by Education Department officials to take account of purchasing power in different countries, showed that while Britain was handing each student £1,053 neither France, Germany,

Kinnock's Kremlin visit upstaged

A SHREWD TACTICAL MOVE by the Prime Minister's Press secretary, Bernard Ingham, yesterday spoiled Neil Kinnock's hopes of receiving the undivided attention of television news for his meeting with President Chernenko in the Kremlin.

For the leader of the opposition it was the highlight of his trip to Russia—the moment when British viewers would at last see him play the role of statesman on the world stage.

But out of the blue yesterday morning 11 TV cameras were invited to cover Mrs Thatcher's lecture at the Carlton Club, which she launched her philosophical attack on the "hard-Left" and the threat they pose to democracy.

The film, provided to all channels on "pool" basis, was certain to make headlines and spoil Kinnock's moment of glory.

As one Labour MP fumed last night "Monstrous news manipulation. Neil's going to be furious."

Humouring them

LORD HOME, principal speaker at the opening of "Left, Write and Centre," an exhibition of politicians' books which was launched yesterday by the Upper Waiting Room of the House of Commons, confirmed his reputation as our most modest former Prime Minister.

Speaking of the two qualifications for entering a book Home said: "Authors had to be alive and must have had a book published of over 50 pages. I just qualified under both headings."

Times really are hard at the B.B.C. if a memo to staff from Margaret

Dubai daily deliveries

A DAIRY near Gatwick Airport has cornered a potentially lucrative market by extending its milk deliveries beyond Sussex to the Gulf State of Dubai, where it has signed a contract to supply more than 1,000 pints a day.

Molly Sale, the owner of the Woodgate Farm dairy, claims that the

LONDON DAY BY DAY

milk, dispatched on the overnight flight and on sale in Dubai within 24 hours of collection from the farms of England, is fresher than that delivered on most English doorsteps. Hitherto only UHT milk has been on sale in Dubai.

The most difficult problem appears to be acquiring sufficient milk in England—E.E.C. milk quotas have cut the supply in Sussex so that Mrs Sale has to "import" half the Arab order from the West Country.

In Labour

ONE PROMINENT Left-winger missing from last week's near-riot in the Commons was the Labour social services spokesman Harriet Harman, who was unavoidably detained in Guy's Hospital where she gave birth that day to a son.

Labour colleagues believe that by having two children in two consecutive Parliamentary sessions Harman, whose duties include being Labour's spokesman on the "Under-fives," has broken all Commons maternity records.

Full Huddle of steam

IN ELECTING John Heddle chairman of the Conservative party's national Local Government Advisory Committee, the Tories in the shires have indeed picked a doughty figure to fight their corner.

His track record, first as a Kent county councillor in the mid-70s and then as MP for mid-Staffordshire is formidable. He cut his campaigning teeth by successfully fighting a plan for a 650-acre reservoir near Canterbury and went on to get the law changed over the rating of empty factories.

Heddle's latest campaign is to persuade the Government to bring leisure plots and horse-grazing plots—the scourge of green belt areas around major towns—under proper control. A man the mandarins at the Department of Environment may well think it prudent to watch.

What's up, Doc?

CINEMA BUFFS whose childhood memories reach back to Bugs Bunny, Sylvester and Tweety Pie, Elmer Fudd and Wile E. Coyote, will be enthralled that the ICA Cinema is staging a season of Hollywood short cartoons, but may be less amused at the heavy interpretive comment accompanying it.

The season, entitled "That's Not All Folks!", features the work of such animators as Frelon and Tex Avery, whose work was, apparently, "a profound influence on the work of Jean-Luc Godard, Jerry Lewis and Steven Spielberg."

The children of the 1940s and '50s

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'OXBRIDGE' IDENTITY CRISES

SIR—I refer to your report (Nov. 21) on applications to Oxford and Cambridge. Perhaps the reasons for the drop in numbers are to be found in experiences similar to ours in my school.

Every October, we launch forty-five 18-year-olds into degree courses all over Britain. This points to the high level of competence of our staff and to the good motivation of our students. Yet, each year, we have only a trickle of successful applicants going up to Oxford or Cambridge, rather than the stream I believe it could well be.

Following the advice of the colleges that we do not lay on a great deal of extra tuition for Oxford and Cambridge candidates. Indeed, we can not staff such and what extra help we provide is mostly as a result of staff goodwill and interest, and takes place at lunchtime or after school.

Each year, we put the idea of entry to Oxford or Cambridge to our Lower Sixth, usually early in the summer term, and ask staff for comments about students' chances. Each year, we find that the number who sustain interest in the idea quickly drops.

Some feel they might be aiming too high. Sometimes it is subject teachers who suggest this, though I believe some teachers in sixth forms think Oxford and Cambridge requirements are higher than they actually are. Some students rightly feel that they can find courses better suited to their needs in other universities.

Some withdraw their interest feeling (as probably some of their parents would agree) that they are pawns in a socio-political battle, aimed at reducing the independent schools' disproportionate share of places allocated.

These are intelligent young students, and they are as capable as I am of discovering that only about 15 per cent of all sixth formers are in independent schools, yet that schools are still gaining roughly half the places at Oxford and Cambridge! This is after several years of State schools being wooed by most of the colleges.

Of those who become firm candidates, not all successfully gain admission. To

some extent, we accept that this will have to be the case. On the other hand, to some extent we find a strange air of unreality about some of the reactions, where candidates have shown to us in school a similar potential to those accepted.

From the outset I encourage all candidates to Oxford and Cambridge entry to be a "broad" selection process, with a "lottery." Doubts are raised with us each year: should we really have encouraged them to go forward? Were we really "strutting a broad" account? Was it their teachers (almost all are called for at interview) that clinched the issue? Have they let down the school in the eyes of their first choice college?

Such heart-searchings must seem foreign to those schools, now mostly independent, with a history of Oxford and Cambridge entry stretching back a century. But, in a school only 12 years old with its Sixth Form only two universities and its intake recently established, such doubts are clearly not common and must surely help to explain any drop in the volume of applications.

Yet I have not mentioned more general matters that probably also help to explain the drop in State school applications. The increasing pressure on the staffs of State schools, and more tasks by way of administration, pastoral care, curriculum reform, submission of more and more reports as part of the stampede towards "accountability" to parents, Governors, elected members, H.M.I. etc., leave less and less time for the luxury of maintaining a stream of State school students applying to Oxford and Cambridge!

I do regret the drop, both as Head and as an individual. I hope State schools will continue to offer themselves to be wooed by Oxford and Cambridge until trickle becomes stream, and stream becomes flood—not least because, as a former Yorkshire grammar school boy, I still treasure the wonderful experience of broad education afforded to me as an Oxford undergraduate.

MICHAEL J. FETHNEY
Headmaster
Abbey Grange C. of E. High School,
Leeds.

Water charge burdens

SIR—I was very surprised to read Mr. D. S. Mead's advice that single householders should install a water meter (Nov. 22).

I have heard chairman of more than one water authority state that only those who use a large amount of water would gain from the installation of a meter, and that single people who did so would probably be faced with even larger bills.

All taxpayers use water, yet only those who are also ratepayers are going to be made to face an increased cost of up to 55 per cent over the next three years.

This Government, of which I have been a staunch supporter, has twice failed to implement a firm manifesto pledge to reform the domestic rating system.

If these increased water charges are imposed, they will indeed be adding insult to injury, particularly where single people and pensioners are concerned.

J. M. SNOW
Budeigh Salterton, Devon.

Pre-reformation days

SIR—Mr Ken Livingstone (Nov. 15) states that 74 per cent of Londoners are opposed to the abolition of the Greater London Council, according to a local television channel sample of 1,023.

What a contrast to the unchallenged abolition 10 years ago of county councils in England and Wales, outside London! Perhaps the proposal at the time to put councillors on the payroll of the present bureaucracies contributed to the apathy.

By present standards unpaid councillors, regardless of politics, had a splendid record of curbing local authority excesses and their reintroduction is overdue.

FRANK DEDMAN
Crawley, Sussex.

Sensitive people

SIR—My company has been manufacturing jelly babies for many years, and at no time have we discriminated against them in terms of race, creed or sex. I should therefore like to take Mr K. E. Morgan (Nov. 17) to task for his suggestion that we should be criticised by the Equal Opportunities Commission.

There are certain production problems in making a true representation of the male and female anatomy. However, we at Squirrel Horn go to great lengths to ensure a fair division of male and female jelly babies. We closely follow the demographic breakdown of the population based upon the latest census statistics on a national level, and try, where possible, to allow for regional variations.

For the benefit of Mr Morgan, and any of our readers, jelly babies are very sensitive little people who like to keep themselves to themselves. The important thing is that they know which are male and which are female, and that is all that matters.

There are already enough sex tests being undertaken in this country, without subjecting our jelly babies to such scrutiny. Eat them by all means, but please allow them their dignity.

JOHN B. HARDY
Chairman, Squirrel Horn plc
Stockport, Greater Manchester.

Disturbing decay of Britons' teeth

SIR—I am pleased to see that the subject of improving our dental health is being discussed in your columns. The poor dental condition and high dental caries (decay) rate in the population of the United Kingdom have been a cause for concern for many years.

The improvement in children's dental health over the last few years noted by Mr G. Somerville, of the Sugar Bureau (Nov. 21), has been mainly in affluent areas, but the decay rate remains disturbingly high in less privileged parts of the country.

Where an improvement has been observed, no one is quite sure of the reason. Fluoridation of the public water supplies has, of course, played a part in the relatively few areas where it is "on tap," and the wider use of fluoride-containing toothpastes has also helped.

Another factor, however, is an improvement in eating habits, coupled with a better understanding of the importance of diet in influencing dental health, as a consequence of the greater efforts now being made in the field of health education.

Indeed, as your article on "Better tooth care" the following day (Nov. 22) points out, the declining decay rate is

thought to be partly due to the lower consumption of sugar. This includes not only table sugar, but sugar in confectionery and many types of cakes, biscuits, puddings, ice-cream and desserts, not forgetting the sugar in all the different kinds of soft drinks that are so popular with children.

The dental profession and health educators have repeatedly pointed out that it is not so much the total amount of sugar consumed, as the frequency of intake that leads to dental decay. Mr Somerville is right to remind us that before dental caries develops, a susceptible site on a tooth and the presence of micro-organisms are needed; but virtually all of us have these to some degree, and they do not lead to caries in the absence of sugar.

Painstaking research has shown us that other members of the carbohydrate family, such as starchy foods, are not nearly as harmful to the teeth as sugar, although the texture and stickiness of foods also have to be taken into account.

T. H. GRENBY
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Wagner's great grand-daughter joins Royal Opera

By ROBIN STRINGER

A GREAT grand-daughter of Richard Wagner, Eva Wagner-Pasquier, has been appointed to the new post of opera director at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, it was announced yesterday.

She will work under the overall direction of Bernard Haitink, Glyndebourne's music director, who will take over from Sir Colin Davis as the Royal Opera's music director in 1987, a year earlier than originally planned.

£12,000 G L C JOB AFTER BIG PAY-OFF

By GUY RAIS

MISS MERLE AMORY, a former London Transport Board member who picked up a £13,000 golden handshake from the Government two weeks ago, begins a £12,000-a-year job with the Greater London Council next month.

She has been appointed "an equal opportunities adviser" in the council's compliance unit, and was said by a G L C spokesman to have been picked "from a number of applicants."

Conservative councillors, expressing incredulity at her appointment, may raise the matter at today's meeting of the G L C.

Mr Alan Hardy, a Conservative member and the Opposition spokesman on the staff committee, said: "Wonders never cease. From shorthand typist to London Transport Board to equal opportunities adviser in the twinkling of an eye. It takes some beating."

Strong opposition

Miss Amory, 25, was the first black woman to be elected to Brent Council on which she is Deputy Opposition Labour leader.

After the controlling Labour group on the G L C recommended her £7,000-a-year membership of the London Transport Board, Dr Keith Bright, Board chairman, strongly opposed her appointment, disagreeing with Mr Livingston, G L C leader, that she would be a useful addition to the Board.

In 1983 Miss Amory, married with no children, was at the centre of a controversy when it was revealed that she had moved into a council flat in Brent, allegedly in front of other families on the waiting list.

A G L C spokesman yesterday confirmed that Miss Amory would be starting at County Hall in a fortnight's time on Dec 10.

RITUAL KILLING

"Pete Marsh," the Iron Age man found preserved in peat near Wilmslow, Cheshire, had had his skull crushed with an axe, and been garrotted, said Dr Ian Virdi, a pathologist from Guy's Hospital, yesterday. "We think we have got all the signs of a ritual execution," said a spokesman at the British Museum.

Alliance Building Society announces new interest rates.

The following rates of interest will apply to Share and Deposit Accounts from 1st December 1984:

Net per annum	Gross equivalent at 30% income tax rate
8.00% 7-Day Account	11.43%
7.50% Alliance BankSave (interest paid annually) Share balances up to £2,500	10.71%
8.50% Share balances £2,500 or over	12.14%
7.75% Regular Savings (Current Issue) MoneyBuilder Accounts	11.07%
6.75% Ordinary Shares MoneyReady and Junior Accounts	9.64%

Interest on all other Share and Deposit Accounts will be reduced by 1% net p.a. from 1st December 1984. Fixed Rate Bond, Index-Linked and S.A.V.E. accounts remain unchanged.

ALLIANCE BUILDING SOCIETY
Alliance Building Society, Alliance House, Hove Park, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 7AZ

All building societies aren't the same.



"By the way comrade, say what you like about Comrade Lenin, but he would have known how to deal with Comrade Scargill!"

UN PEU PLUS CORDIALE

By HARVEY LEE

THE French are marginally more fond of us than we are of them, according to a survey published yesterday on the eve of the summit meeting between Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand.

The poll, commissioned by the BBC French Service, was designed to compare the attitudes of those under-30 in each country with those of the population as a whole.

Whereas 72 per cent of all French found Britons "sympathetic," 61 per cent of our feel the French are "nice."

GATWICK CAR THEFT RACKET

More than 12 new Ford Granada and Capri cars have been stolen from Gatwick Airport's short term multi-storey car park in the last 10 days, Sussex police said yesterday.

Most have been found in London, stripped of wheels, accessories and engine parts. Some have been deliberately burned out to hide evidence.

BOY, 5, FOR COLLEGE

A five-year-old boy has passed college entrance exams and will enrol as a special student at the Chinese Science and Technology University in Peking—A.P.

'Life skills' project cuts juvenile crime

By SARAH THOMPSON Education Staff

A THREE-YEAR education project in "life skills" has helped to cut by 20 per cent the juvenile crime rate in a town which has 17 per cent unemployment.

The project is a joint venture by the Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council and the Social Morality Council. It has received backing worth £740,000, much of it from local and national industry.

Now the borough is intending to continue the project as part of the authority's education budget.

At one school teenage pregnancy has been eliminated from a programme of up to four periods a week of teaching 14-16-year-olds in how to deal with a wide range of aspects of adult life.

Empty places

Chief Superintendent John Tomkinson, of the West Midlands Constabulary, has no doubt that the project has been a factor in a drop in juvenile offences in the borough from 29.2 per cent of all crime in 1980 to 21.8 per cent last year.

"Three years ago we had to estimate what provision we needed for juvenile offenders by way of custody and other services," he said. "This year we found that we only needed a third of the expected provision. There are empty places in remand homes for juveniles."

The social education project, he explained, went hand in hand with a drive to prevent young troublemakers from getting into the courts.

"If you can keep youngsters out of the courts you can make citizens out of them," said Mr Tomkinson.

The project involves young people in looking at health, money management, politics,

Artificial heart man survives blood crisis

By IAN BALL in New York

THE world's second recipient of a man-made heart was in critical but stable condition yesterday after a post-operative crisis in which he lost almost half his blood through internal bleeding from his aorta.

Some six hours after an air-driven, plastic-and-metal artificial heart had been implanted in his chest, William Schroeder was back in the operating theatre at Humana Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky.

Doctors identified the source of the bleeding as needle holes in scar tissue where the artificial heart was sewn to the back wall of the aorta. Mr Schroeder's cardiac arteries still bear the scars of a double-bypass operation performed last year.

Dr William Devries, who implanted the artificial heart as well as the one which kept Dr Bernard Clark alive for 112 days until his death in 1983, was able to stop the bleeding. The setback was not considered immediately life-threatening.

Clicking softly

The implanting of the £12,300 Jarvik-7 heart, which weighs 10 oz, had been performed without a hitch. Yesterday it was clicking softly as it pumped 4-5 quarts of blood through roughly 60 miles of blood vessels in the body every minute.

"He is not bleeding," said Dr Allan Lansing, Humana's medical director. "He is warm, pink and dry, indicating excellent circulation. There appear to be no major complications."

Dr Lansing said Mr Schroeder, 52, showed slight kidney and liver problems, but those were to be expected after heart surgery. There was under sedation and connected to a respirator to assist his breathing.

Mr Schroeder is also linked

OLYMPIC PROFITS PLEA

By IAN BRODIE

AMERICAN Olympic officials were under increasing pressure yesterday to share some of the huge profits from the Los Angeles Games with visiting teams.

Proposals for the teams to be reimbursed for some or all of their housing or transport costs have the backing of members of the International Olympic Committee.

They also have the wholehearted support of the British Olympic Association which spent \$300,000 on airline tickets and rooms.

Bigger teams

But a major obstacle is the American Olympic Committee which will benefit for years to come from the shoal of profits.

Latest estimates say the Games surplus will reach \$162 million (£154 million).

Mr Peter Ueberroth, former President of the Los Angeles Games, said about \$7 million (£5.8 million) should be set aside to reimburse visiting teams for housing costs.

Many countries had responded to requests to send bigger teams to take up the slack after the Soviets and their allies pulled out, he said.

Christian 'fairy tales' message by Bishop of Durham

By DAVID MILLWARD

THE Bishop of Durham, the Rt. Rev. David Jenkins, says in his Christmas message that belief in the literal truth of the Virgin Birth could convince non-believers that Christians deal in "fairy tales."

He says: "There really are very serious critical and historical grounds for treating that story as one of the very early embroideries of the wonder of the discovery that this Jesus is God for us."

Writing in his December diocesan newsletter, he clarifies the views he expressed in April and which aroused opposition to consecration.

"We have no right to insist on the literal truth of the story about the Virgin Birth of Jesus," he says.

"To insist on literal language as being the only way, or even the principal way of bearing witness to God is to get stuck in something very close to magic and superstition and to be in great danger of encouraging many of the worst of our convictions that we religious people deal in fairy tales."

Inspired symbols

Some people, he says, "simply cannot understand, or simply will not listen to, the point that many of the stories of the Bible are 'for real' not by being literally true, but by being inspired symbols of a living faith about the real activity of God."

Believers in God should be able to use symbols, "for no statement about God is literally true."

"God is far more than can be measured, described, defined in ordinary language or pinned down to any particular happening," he says.

Disturbing reading

The Rev. David Holloway, Vicar of Jesmond, Newcastle, who in October challenged Dr Jenkins and the other bishops to state their positions on religious doctrine, said yesterday that the newsletter would be disturbing to a number of people.

"People in Durham who read the newsletter will be confused and I don't think this is a good thing for a Bishop to do."

"My view is that he is wrong. It may be that in the hierarchy of Christian tradition the Virgin Birth is not something which is given the same prominence as the Resurrection, nevertheless it is not something which can be negotiated," he said.

EXECUTIVES 'WORST PAID IN WORLD'

By Our Business Correspondent

SENIOR British executives are among the worst paid in the world, but are not so heavily taxed as some of their counterparts, according to a survey covering 21 countries.

Chief executives in Britain are 18th in the league table with a gross average salary of £30,500. Only in Ireland, Greece and Portugal are salaries lower.

The highest paid chief executives are in the United States with average salaries of £76,400 followed by Switzerland (£70,000), according to the survey published in the *Financial Times*.

But after tax the top executives in Switzerland emerge as the best paid with take home salaries of £54,400 compared to £31,400 in the United States, and £31,500 in France.

The British chief executive is in 11th place with a net salary of £19,800 after tax and social security payments.

Mr Donald McIlme, the survey author, says that some foreign-based executives use the cost of a bottle of Scotch whisky to argue the case for salary or cost of living related rises.

He says the devotees of the "Bottle of Scotch Cost of Living Index" use arguments along the lines: "Look, you must do something about my salary. I can't afford to live in Upper Watnalsland. Do you have any idea how much a bottle of Scotch costs there? I'll tell you—£35 and that's when you can get hold of one."

STAGE SHOW'S BULLETS ERROR

An amateur operatic society which was handed live ammunition by mistake for its Western show "Calamity Jane" was alerted by police just before their performance last night.

The 50 rounds of blanks were meant to be used for sound effects but a gun shop accidentally gave the Casio Operatic Society at Watford Palace Theatre 3mm breach caps, which are capable of firing pieces of lead.

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JOSEPH FACES QUESTIONS ON GRANT CHANGES

By Our Education Staff

Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, is to be questioned by the Select Committee on Science, Education and the Arts over the new student grant regulations which will land middle class parents of students with bills of up to £4,000 next year.

The committee is summoning Sir Keith on Dec 18.

The new regulations abolish the minimum grant, cut last year from £410 to £205, and impose tuition fees of up to £520 on better-off parents. They will bring extra expenditure to about 180,000 families.

Special Article and Editorial Comment—Facing Page

INVESTMENT & BUSINESS

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Jardine shares jump

JARDINE MATHESON shares jumped 5p to 82½p in London yesterday after rumours in the Hong Kong markets that the Jardine family is about to sell a substantial part of its holding in British and American investors. In London there was a firm "no comment" from a spokesman for Henry Jardine and the company. "I have not heard this rumour before," said a spokesman.

Jardine speculation and the latest half point cut in local interest rates helped the Jardine shares reach a seven-month high at 111½p, almost 18 points higher on the day.

Volvo pays more

PRE-TAX profits at Volvo Group, the electrical manufacturer previously owned by Volvo, increased from £1.3m to £1.6m in the half year to Sept. 30. The interim dividend is lifted from 1.2p to 1.5p on the basis of a higher final dividend.

Sterling surges

STERLING Guarantee Trust is lifting its interim dividend from 0.25p to 0.5p, payable Jan. 25. Pre-tax half-year profits surged from £1.4m to £1.8m. Capital profits are effectively taken to reserves.

War rates cut

INSURERS yesterday cut the war risk premium on ships going to the Kharg Island oil fields in Iran, to 2.5 p.c. for a seven-day stay, a drop from between 3.5 p.c. and 4 p.c. because it is more than a month since war risk premiums have been raised.

Gold down \$4.5

THE PRICE of gold took a tumble in the London bullion market yesterday, down with a fall of \$4.50 to \$337 an ounce after briefly trading at \$338. The decline was attributed to general and professional selling on the back of the renewed strength of the United States dollar.

Fenner tops £6m

J. H. FENNER Holdings has beaten its July profit forecast of £5.8m with full year pre-tax profits to Sept. 1 up from £4.5m to £6.1m. Turnover increased from £147m to £178m. The final dividend has been maintained at 5p net for 1983.

Coral expands

BASS, Britain's biggest brewer, is through its subsidiary, Coral, expanding its licensed betting office chain with the acquisition of Heathcote for an undisclosed sum. The purchase includes 47 betting shops and will bring Coral's total number of outlets to over 700.

Senews purchase

SENEWS, the South Coast newspaper publishers, have acquired Charles Clarke (Hawthorn Heath), publishers of the *Mid-Sussex Times* and its sister paper in a cash and shares deal worth £2.5m financed by Citicorp Venture Capital and Electra Investment Trust.

WORLD MARKETS

AMSTERDAM	176.40 + 2.60
BRISBANE	158.50 + 1.31
FRANKFURT	1,092.10 + 6.50
HONGKONG	1,113.95 + 17.92
NEW YORK	1,212.85 - 7.95
PARIS	180.90 + 0.90
SYDNEY	765.50 - 7.20
TOKYO	11,162.96 + 74.44
ZURICH	813.20 - 0.20

U.S. RATES

Federal funds	8.47-42 (18-45-48)
Treas. 3 month	8.47-42 (18-45-48)
Long bonds	8.102-13 (8.103-21)
Yield	11.83 p.c. (unch)

U.S. COMMODITIES

GOLD (Comex)	335.35 + 0.40
SILVER	241.80 + 0.10
COPPER	241.80 + 0.10
WHEAT	241.80 + 0.10
CORN	241.80 + 0.10
SOYBEANS	241.80 + 0.10
COFFEE	241.80 + 0.10
TEA	241.80 + 0.10
CINNAMON	241.80 + 0.10
PEPPER	241.80 + 0.10

FT-ACTUARIES INDICES

Industrial Group	564.77 (+6.93)
"500"	605.46 (+6.40)
All-Share	554.97 (+5.35)

Chase buys into Milbank and Simon & Coates

By ANNE SEGALL

CHASE MANHATTAN, the American banking giant, yesterday announced one of the boldest moves yet in the rapidly changing United Kingdom securities market in a simultaneous deal to acquire Laurie Milbank and Simon & Coates, the last two leading stockbroking firms to resist outside links.

It follows the move by Union Bank of Switzerland to acquire Phillips and Drew earlier this month and leaves Cazenove among the stockbroking majors still on its own. It is understood that Cazenove is determined to maintain its independence.

The suggestion that Chase may have acted hurriedly to make up for lost time by swallowing two firms instead of one was firmly denied yesterday by Anthony Terracciano, head of Chase's international investment banking operations. He said Chase had been looking at opportunities in the London market for the past year and would have been happy to do a deal with just one of the two firms.

But when it became apparent a few weeks ago that a simultaneous deal would be acceptable to all concerned, the opportunity to go for both firms proved "irresistible," Mr Terracciano explained. Chase would not disclose either the price to be paid for the two firms or the size of its initial stake, although the stakes could vary for technical reasons.

The bank will remain a minority partner until Stock Exchange rules allow it to move to full ownership. Chase claimed that its "immediate intention" is not to interfere with the day-to-day management of the firms. The bank also said it would not impose its own ideas on them but would help them to develop a long-term strategy. It became immediately apparent that Chase was not acquiring Laurie Milbank's important money-broking operation as part of the merger package. This will eventually be hived off as an independent firm.

Treasury pessimistic on interest rate trend

By FRANCES WILLIAMS

THE Treasury is assuming little or no fall in interest rates next year, it emerged yesterday, despite assurances by ministers that present policies are designed to keep interest rates on a downward track. The Chancellor's autumn statement revealed that the cost of servicing Government debt was expected to be £1 billion higher in 1985-86 than forecast in the Budget.

Giving evidence yesterday to the all-party Treasury Select Committee of M.P.s, Sir Terence Burns, the Government's chief economist, admitted that most of the extra was due to a higher assumed level of interest rates, rather than to the £1.5 billion overrun in public borrowing this year.

The Treasury does not publish interest rate forecasts because of their market sensitivity. Sir Terence was at pains to stress that the upward revision meant simply a more pessimistic assessment of prospects compared with the Budget. But the size of the discrepancy suggests that the Treasury is assuming little or no cut in rates from present levels.

Norway delays oil price cut

NORWAY was yesterday delaying another cut in North Sea oil prices as spot market trading continued to bump along at a five-month low.

Traders are expecting Statoil, the Norwegian state-owned company, to reduce its price by at least 30 cents a barrel to come into line with the \$28.65 a barrel level set by the British National Oil Corporation for Brent crude.

The earlier cut by Norway triggered last month's crisis which led to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries cutting production to avoid a price slide. Norway increased prices this month in line with spot market trends but the turnaround in crude trading is forcing the Norwegians to fall back into line with B.N.O.C.

Link House agrees £88m bid

By JOHN RUDOFSKY

REGIONAL newspaper group United Newspapers is bidding £88.5 million for Link House Publications, best known for its leading title *EXCHANGE AND MART*.

After a 30-month courtship the deal has been agreed between United Newspapers and the founding families of Link House who brought their business to the stock market just five years ago on a price of £15 million.

With the support of the Link House board and the families, United Newspapers immediately secured about 60 p.c. of the equity, so subject to the approval of the Office of Fair Trading the deal should go through.

David Stevens, United Newspapers' chairman, said he had been trying to get an agreed deal for some time but negotiations became serious in the last few weeks. He said United Newspapers can significantly improve the earnings of Link House. The company's profits record has been good and Link House forecasts £9 million pre-tax in the year to next June 30 against £7.9 million, they have been centred on the *EXCHANGE AND MART* publications and *OPPORTUNITIES*, a local authority jobs newspaper.

The books and magazines side have not been doing well and even *EXCHANGE AND MART* circulation has fallen for the last five years.

Mr Stevens claims his organisation can improve Link House's results and in particular will step up the marketing campaign for *EXCHANGE AND MART*.

State of U.S. economy gives dollar strength

THE DOLLAR gave one of its periodic demonstrations of strength yesterday despite declines in United States interest rates. The pound lost 1.45 cents to \$1.2000 while in terms of Deutschmarks the American currency advanced from DM3-0540 to DM3-0585. In other European currencies and in the yen the pattern was the same.

To say that cuts in prime lending rates posted by United States banks had anyway been discounted before Citibank's announcement of a one-quarter point reduction to 11½ p.c. is only to say that interest rate changes don't seem to matter for the moment. Or, to put it another way, all the discussion that exceptionally slow growth in the money supply, as confirmed by last week's figures, will cause the Federal Reserve Board to order further reductions in the discount rate have been declared irrelevant.

What seems more important to bankers, treasurers of international companies and investors is the state of the American economy. The recent slowing in the rapid growth seen earlier in 1984 to a more pedestrian pace is read as good news, particularly as inflation remains convincingly subdued.

The notion that slower progress may be followed by recession is still seen as unduly pessimistic. Meanwhile, the boost to sentiment provided by Mr Reagan's stunning victory in the presidential election continues to do its work.

As for the pound, it showed particular weakness yesterday, also losing ground against Continental currencies. The index measuring its value against a basket of currencies touched 74 at 3 p.m., equalling its all-time low, but then recovered slightly to end the day at 74.2.

There is a story of sorts which explains the pound's depression. Sea oil. The continued weakness in North Sea oil prices has tarnished sterling's qualities as a petrocurrency. Yet if that sounds a pretty thin reason for selling pounds, it is.

The main point is that everyone loves the dollar. And as the year

CITY COMMENT

State of U.S. economy gives dollar strength

end approaches companies and banks will want to show attractive dollar values in their forthcoming balance sheets.

Pensions milestone

TWO DAYS after Telecom Day leaves another deadline which has received less publicity but may ultimately be just as much a social milestone. Friday is the last day for submitting final thoughts on the need for personal portable pensions schemes, which future generations of workers can take with them as they move, willingly or unwillingly, from job to job.

Mr Fowler is expected to publish his own thoughts in the next two or three months. There are, however, two dangers in this piecemeal method of codifying proposals for parts before coming to conclusions on the whole subject. One is that partial proposals are inevitably more liable to be watered down.

The legislation on early leavers will only protect that part of pensions to be earned from next January onwards and only up to a maximum of 5 p.c. a year. It will be many years before that makes a genuine contribution to mobility of labour, and even now the Engineering Employers are complaining 5 p.c. a year is too generous a concession. Advocates of portable pensions fear their own ideas may be given the same treatment.

Mr Fowler could still surprise us and decide in the next few months to endorse wholesale changes.

Summing up a merger

TRYING to define the market for accounting services has held up the Office of Fair Trading's decision on whether a merger between Price Waterhouse and Deloitte Haskins & Sells falls within the

U.S. prime rates lowered to 11.5pc

By LAUREN CHAMBLISS in Washington

MOST American major banks cut their prime rates to 11½ p.c. yesterday but the quarter point drop lagged behind market expectations and share prices drifted lower while the dollar continued its brisk rise.

In stock market trading the less-than-expected prime rate reduction depressed investors and share prices drifted lower throughout the day in moderate trading.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed 7.95 lower at 1,212.35.

Compared with Friday's 18-point rise, which was sparked by the Fed's discount rate reduction, the performance was surprisingly lacklustre.

The prime rate cut at Citibank, First Chicago and other big money centre institutions was the fifth cut in the base rate since September when the prime first began to ease off its summer peak of 15 p.c.

The move came on top of weekend speculation that the prime should be trimmed to 11 or 11½ p.c. due to unusually low short-term money costs and last week's Federal Reserve discount rate reduction.

Some big banks, including Bank of America and Wells Fargo, held back yesterday but are expected to follow Citibank's lead soon.

Although the dollar dipped briefly on the interest rate news, traders watched in amazement as the American currency recovered quickly. Sterling closed at \$1.2020, down 1.65 cents.

Telecom carries unofficial premium

APPLICATIONS for British Telecom shares continued to come in by the sackful yesterday as unofficial dealings saw prices being quoted at about the 70p mark for the partly paid 50p shares.

Stockbrokers joined in the rush with the dispatch of thousands of applications for clients to supplement the million plus forms from the public. The average public application is believed to be around the £700-£800 mark but many are for the minimum 200 shares costing £200.

The world-wide demand for the £2.9 billion issue has surpassed all the most optimistic estimates. "It seems every investor in the world wants a share of the BT action," said one source.

Applications close tomorrow at 10 a.m. with predictions about the size of the oversubscription growing. Applicants pay for their shares in three stages, an initial 50p a share and two tranches of 40p each.

Sumrie Clothes losses increase

SUMRIE Clothes, an active market of late, fell 7 to 55p yesterday following an increase in opening half pre-tax losses from £24,000 to £173,000 and news that the company's management have found problems inherited in March more difficult than expected.

The company is also postponing its proposed acquisition of Spatebrook, a leisurewear importer and distributor, to concentrate on returning its manufacturing business to profitability.

In June Michael Hepker, chairman who joined the board in February as the representative of Le Chevalier, the Monaco-based investment company which together with associates has a near 29 p.c. stake, criticised previous management for expanding the group's retailing operations from two to four shops. These were closed and a £236,000 loss charged below the line.

Trading and margins were said to have improved, partly as a result of changes made by the new management, and a stringent policy of reducing overheads was being pursued. Further measures to improve margins during the second half are now being implemented.

Watling raises Cullen's stake

CULLEN'S Stores Ordinary shares jumped 40p to 475p and the A 35 to 375p yesterday after Watling (105) revealed it had stepped up its holdings in the company and today expected to announce details of a revised recommended offer worth just under £8 million.

Watling has won irrevocable undertakings from Provincial Insurance and Provincial Nonmembers to accept an offer of 440p and 540p a share in respect of their combined holdings of 7 p.c. of the Cullen's ordinary and 17 p.c. of the A shares.

This gives Watling effective control of 28.4 p.c. of the Cullen's vote carrying Ordinary equity compared with rival bidders Lewis Carter and John Fletcher who have 24.5 p.c. and 10.05 p.c. respectively.

limits. First the O.F.T. had to decide if there were any demerits of the market which would put the merged firm with more than the 25 p.c. level, above which it may be investigated.

Only after that could they even start thinking about the public interest. If you take the 200 largest companies the two would have a 24 p.c. market share of auditing; extended it to the top 1,000 and they have 251 audits which just tips the share into the investigatable limit.

The two firms have argued this was far too narrow a view. For Price Waterhouse, which recently bought the management consultancy Urwick Orr, auditing is only about half its business. For Deloitte it is probably slightly more.

But if all services provided by all chartered accountancy firms are aggregated, the two told the O.F.T. the total market could be £1.5 billion and the merged firm would have only about 4.5 p.c. of that. If the services provided by banks and solicitors in this field are added, the value is probably doubled, and hence their share halved.

The American Justice Department gave the go-ahead in 28 days. The O.F.T. last week completed its discussions with the firms and is expected to report to the Government before the end of this week.

Even if the Government reacts instantly, the partners will have only a few days before voting on the merger. Four key countries have a veto — America, Britain, Canada and Australia — and they are all due to vote over the next 17 days.

Partners have to weigh the arguments for a merger in the 250-page document sent to them. The O.F.T. and the Government have to consider the public interest, especially as more accountancy mergers are on the stocks and there may be concentration moves in other professional services for which this decision may set a precedent.

Fenner

Extract from Chairman's statement:

"1983/84 results confirm underlying recovery trend, but short term prospects overshadowed by miners' strike"

*** TURNOVER MOVED AHEAD BY 20% TO £17,842,000**

*** PRE TAX PROFIT IMPROVED BY 35% TO £6,066,000**


*** EARNINGS PER SHARE MORE THAN TREBLED FROM 3.49p TO 11.66p**

*** EXPORT ORDER BOOK INCREASED BY 66%**

Copies of the Report and Accounts 1984 available from the Company Secretary
J.H. Fenner (Holdings) PLC.
Marfleet, Hull Tel: 0482 781234

The Fenner Group is principally concerned with the manufacture of mechanical and electronic power transmission equipment, industrial conveyor belting, fluid seals, materials handling systems and fluid power equipment.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange



Automated Security (Holdings) PLC

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act, 1929, No. 321639)

Rights Issue of 14,781,907 5 per cent. Convertible Cumulative Redeemable Preference Shares of £1 each at 100p per share

The Council of The Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official list the above-mentioned Preference Shares

Particulars of the Preference Shares are available in the statistical services of Extel Statistical Services Limited and copies of such particulars may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 17th December, 1984 from—

Charterhouse Japhet plc
1 Paternoster Row
St Paul's
London EC4M 7DH

Greene & Co.
Bilbao House
36/38 New Broad Street
London EC2M 1NY

de Zoete & Bevan
25, Finsbury Circus
London EC2M 7EE

ISC is paying \$55 million in cash and will issue 600,000 new shares as consideration.

Paddington BUILDING SOCIETY

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Society's rules that as from 1st December 1984 the following rates of interest per annum will be paid on the following current types of investment account:

ORDINARY SHARES	7.25% net 10.35%* gross
SEVEN DAY NOTICE ACCOUNT	8.5% net 12.14%* gross
MONTHLY INCOME ACCOUNT	8.00% net 11.42%* gross
REGULAR MONTHLY SAVINGS	8.75% net 12.50%* gross
DEPOSITS	6.25% net 8.92%* gross

*Assumes basic rate income tax at 20%. The rates of interest on all other Share and Deposit Accounts including previous issues of Planning Savings and Term Shares will be reduced by 1% per annum from 1st December 1984. Interest rates subject to variation throughout period of investment.

Paddington Building Society

125 Westbourne Grove, London W2B 2DP. Tel: 01-229 7164.

Member of The Building Societies Association, Trustee Status.

Dunhill pre-tax £5.8m midway

DUNHILL HOLDINGS, where

30.6 p.c. stake, has had another

record opening half with pre-tax

profits on 38 p.c. from £4.21m

to a new peak of £5.82m.

The momentum of the business

under the Dunhill name continued

strongly with additional volume

growth being achieved primarily

in fashion and watches. All

sectors also benefited from the

mix of exchange rates in the

period.

Earnings came out 3.1p higher

at 8.5p from which holders get

a 1.5p interim on Jan. 4 against

equal to 1.2p.

Chamberlain Phipps

CHAMBERLAIN Phipps is head-

ing for record results with

interim profits up from £2m in

1983 and the full year total

expected to top £8m against

£7.8m.

The adhesives and insulation business is going well following the Tanner Chemical acquisition in the United States. Shoe components are having a mixed time, with British demand holding up, but the American side suffering from import competition, while in Canada the business is increasingly seasonal.

Disappointingly, the interim dividend is merely maintained at 1.1p net per share.

Erskine House

ERSKINE House, which returned

to the dividend list in June after

a three-year absence with a 1.5p

final, is now paying a 0.6p interim

on Jan. 21.

Background is first half pre-

tax profits from this expanded

group of £10,000 and earnings of

£1.1p. On a restated basis with

acquisitions accounted for as mergers

on the basis of Exposure

Draft, the corresponding

period produced £332,000 and

earnings of 2.5p.

The board says prospects for

the second half appear encourag-

ing. Sales in the office equipment

companies have been buoyant in

October and November and the

effect on margins of productivity

improvements on the services

side is beginning to be seen.

Redman Heenan

CONFIRMATION from Redman

Heenan International that its

bankers are continuing to offer

support while negotiations aimed

at improving its financial position

continue, helped the shares

recover 3.5p to 7.2p yesterday.

The loss-making engineering

product group receded in

September. It had started talks

with its bankers and some major

shareholders "regarding future

financial requirements." With no

news of any developments on this

front, the shares ran into

nervous selling last Friday and

tumbled 5p to 4p.

Radio City

RADIO CITY (Sound of Mersey-

side), the first independent radio

station to go public by way of a

£5.5m listing, has weighed in

with full year pre-tax profits

down from £501,000 to £281,000.

Behind this lies static advertising revenue at a time of additional spending on special programmes, while the expected benefits from the International Garden Festival for the subsidiary the Beattie City exhibition centre did not materialise.

Below the line there are extraordinary debits of £212,000 (£222,000), including £100,000 opening costs of the exhibition.

A 5.5p final keeps the total at 3.5p from earnings of 8.4p (10.2p).

Sarasota

SARASOTA Technology, the

Winchester-based designer manu-

facturer of electronic sensors

and transducers which obtained a

full market quote in July, has

lifted opening half pre-tax profits

from £775,000 to £1,041,000 on

turnover of £2,700,000 ahead at

£4.82m.

The board says that traditionally

the group has always traded at

a higher level in the second half

and that the current year's

performance is being maintained

at an encouraging level, especially

in North America, and the present

favourable trends are expected

to continue.

There was no profit forecast

in the offer document but last

year the group made £2.2m pre-

tax. There is a maiden interim

dividend of 0.7p (full) on Jan. 21

from earnings of 3.2p (2.5p).

Telecomputing

TELECOMPUTING, the Oxford-

based computer software com-

pany which joined the £5m in

June, has easily topped its pre-

tax profit forecast of £250,000 with

record full year pre-tax profits

of £495,000, against £200,000 in

the comparable period. Turnover

advanced from a restated £1.8m

to £2.45m.

This improvement stemmed

principally from the placement

of the company's products were

released during the year. During

the period the group spent

£487,000 on R & D, compared with

£487,000 in the current year.

There is a final dividend of

0.65p, as indicated, of 15p

from earnings of 10.15p (10.74p).

IN-BRIEF

Sekers: First half pre-tax profit

£27,000 (£17,000) after interest

charge of £270,000 (£200,000).

Turnover £8.5m (£8.8m). Eps

5.8p (£4.6p). Interim dividend

0.6p (£0.5p). Payable Jan. 20.

Current activity and present order

book strong; board confident

about full year outcome.

James Cropper: First half pre-

tax profit £288,000 (£285,000) after

interest charge of £172,000

(£204,000). Turnover £11.8m

(£10.4m). Interim dividend 2.4

p.c. (equal same) payable Jan. 18.

Second half results should

improve due to recent price

increases and satisfactory order

position.

Property Partnership: First

half pre-tax profit £501,000

(£501,000).

London Metal Markets

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Transvaal Consolidated Land and Exploration Company, Limited

Abridged

Chairman's statement

for the year ended 30th September, 1984

A decline of only one per cent in profit represents a most creditable performance.

The year ended 30th September 1984 was characterised by a combination of economic and political developments which significantly influenced business activities. Notwithstanding the encouraging improvement in the United States' economy, the steps which might ultimately be taken to bring the budget deficit under control constituted an immediate challenge which continued to undermine confidence in the quality of the recovery.

In South Africa, the adoption of a new constitution involved considerable official time and attention, possibly accounting for the apparent unwillingness or inability on the part of the authorities to confront serious problems in the local economy.

Difficult economic conditions, uncertainty regarding the possibility of significant changes in economic policy on the part of the South African government and the increasing amount of time spent on industrial relations, have tested the ability of those charged with managing the group's affairs. Against this background, a decline of only one per cent to R81.5 million for the year in the profit attributable to members of the company, represents a most creditable performance.

Although the expansion of the group and the financing of its new operations require the retention of substantial funds, it has been possible to maintain total dividends for the year at 280 cents per share with only a minimal reduction in the dividend cover.

Gold and uranium

Owing to the effects of a severely weakened rand, the price of gold in rand terms rose steadily, with minor deviations, from approximately R14 000 per kilogram at the beginning of October 1983 to exceed R18 500 per kilogram in the last few weeks of September 1984.

The uranium oxide market remains depressed with weak demand unable to absorb current production. In addition, stockpiles representing some three to four years' consumption already overhang the market.

Unfavourable public opinion regarding the establishment of nuclear power stations and the high current cost of construction of such facilities are now seen to be a severe deterrent to the future establishment of new nuclear power plants. Construction of some power stations has been abandoned, at fairly advanced stages of completion, while plans for certain new stations have been postponed indefinitely.

Considerable efforts are being made to improve productivity on the gold mines. However, there are limits to the extent to which ongoing advances in productivity can be pushed. Cost increases of the magnitude recently experienced cannot continue to be absorbed, especially by the low grade mines, without seriously prejudicing their financial viability.

The greatly improved results achieved by the successful operation of the gold recovery plant at Crown Mines, owned by Rand Mines Mining and Mining Company Limited, have given sufficient confidence to proceed with the construction of a new plant at City Deep.

Coal

A levelling off in demand on the international coal market and intense competition caused a serious erosion of prices early in the year. Many consumers reduced their stockpiles and the successful implementation of energy conservation measures further decreased the demand for coal. New producers entered the market, while others sought to maximise their market share and this eroded margins. Somewhat later in the year, spot prices hardened under the influence of alleged production and infra-structural problems in Poland. The protracted coal miners' strike in Britain, fears of a possible coal miners' strike in the United States, and adverse terms of trade for American coal as a result of the unusually strong dollar, also tended to modestly bolster the market.

Domestic demand for coal rose from the preceding year's low level. This was less a reflection of higher industrial activity than of the colder winter and the fact that in the previous year certain consumers had reduced their stockpiles considerably. Sales of bituminous coal increased in Natal where, after the good rainfall last summer, the Electricity Supply Commission increased the output of power from certain of its older stations.

An increase of 9.2 per cent in the pithead price of coal sold locally was granted by the government to producers in the Transvaal. Producers in Natal were, on the other hand, granted an increase of only 4.8 per cent. In both cases, these price increases have been nullified by working costs which are presently rising at an annual rate of 12.9 per cent.

Considerable efforts have been made to improve productivity on the coal mines. While these efforts will continue, it is not entirely certain that the results will be sufficient to offset the ravages of inflation. The industry's ability to absorb accelerating costs is not without limit. More balance in the relationship between the controlled price for coal and production costs is essential.

SALIENT FEATURES			
	1984	1983	%
R million	R million	R million	
Turnover	547.8	496.5	+10.3
Profit before taxation	141.7	126.6	+11.9
Profit after taxation attributable to shareholders	81.5	82.7	-1.5
Total assets	1 028.2	929.5	+10.6

Earnings per share

Dividends per share

Number of shares on which earnings per share is based (000's)

11 211 10 566 + 8.1

PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS

R million

1980

1981

1982

1983

1984

1985

1986

1987

1988

1989

1990

1991

1992

1993

1994

1995

1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

MONEY & EXCHANGES

Pound falls 1.85 cents

STERLING was hit on foreign exchange markets yesterday by the twin effects of a cooling dollar and oil price fears.

The sterling index plunged to an all-time low of 74 before closing at 74.2, down from 74.9 on Friday.

The pound fell by 1.85 cents against the dollar to close at \$1.200 compared with \$1.2185.

The renewed demand for dollars took currency markets by surprise, coming in spite of the falling American interest rates and weekend news of a bigger-

than-expected decline in American money supply.

With American interest rates pointing one way and the late of the pound another, dealers in London money markets were uncertain the next move for United Kingdom interest rates.

The three-month interbank edged up from just over 9 1/2 p.c. to nearly 9 3/4 p.c.

The Bank of England met a £30m cash shortage in the banking system by buying bills from the discount houses at existing intervention rates.

THE POUND ABROAD

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

OTHER MARKET RATES

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	167.60-167.70	167.60
Canada	1.2100-1.2105	1.2100
France	250.75-250.80	250.75
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

DOLLAR RATES

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

EUROCURRENCIES

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

FORWARD RATES

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

GOLD PRICE

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

CRUGGERANDS

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

PLATINUM NOBLES

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

NEW SOVEREIGNS

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

MONEY MARKET RATES

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

CLEARING BANKS RATE

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

FINANCE HOUSES RATE

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

DISCOUNT RATE

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

INTERBANK

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

LOCAL AUTHORITY DEPOSITS

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

BANK BILLS

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

TREAS. BILLS

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

STERLING C.D.s

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

DOLLAR C.D.s

	26-11-84	Prev. close
Australia	25.85-25.90	25.85
Canada	74.30-74.35	74.30
France	16.50-16.55	16.50
Germany	1.75-1.76	1.75
Italy	1.75-1.76	1.75
Japan	165.00-165.10	165.00
Netherlands	2.20-2.21	2.20
Spain	165.00-165.10	165.00
Sweden	10.50-10.55	10.50
Switzerland	1.75-1.76	1.75
USA	1.200-1.201	1.2185

Sterling quality rates a firm hold

A HAPPY coincidence gave the interim results from Sterling Guarantee Trust an extra push in the period to September 28.

SGT bought £31 million worth of Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation shares from Trafalgar House with the P & O interim dividend, and included this under income from investments.

The dividend itself is not payable until next month but it is the declaration which counts, for the dividend once declared can be brought into profit and creditors.

But while SGT is able to bring in the dividend it has not had to carry the interest associated with the purchase, thus giving interim profits a lift of around £2 million.

Even without that interim results would have looked good. The service industry division pushed profits up by 57 p.c. and with continued recovery on the mainstream property business, pre-tax group profits came the P & O dividend are up from £5.48 million to £10.1 million.

'Over the full year SGT will be able to carry account P & O for the second half. It will bring in 20 p.c. of 50 p.c. of P & O's profits, reflecting ownership of the 20 p.c. stake for six months. Since P & O is likely to make around £65 million, SGT will be able to bring in £13 million - roughly twice the carrying cost of the investment.

That puts SGT on course for a full year profit in the £22-£23 million range and the shares, 4.5p higher at 63p last night, on a prospective earnings multiple of about 15 times.

That rating poses problems for Jeffrey Sterling so far as his plans to merge SGT with P & O are concerned, since the latter trades at a substantially lower rating. It also limits the scope for further growth.



Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of Sterling Guarantee Trust - group profits up from £5.48 million to £10.1 million in first-half.

in the SGT price, and new money might be better directed at P & O.

Volox Group rates a 'hold'

THE DISASTER cycle at Volox Group has been broken, and from here on it should be a much more reliable profit earner than ever it was under its former name, Ward and Goldstone.

In the last 18 months, a new management team has taken tough decisions, the major one being to close down the cables division which generated 40 p.c. of group turnover but was not making profits.

The two major divisions

which are left are cable looms for the motor industry and electrical wiring accessories.

These have been subject to management action and a certain degree of reorganisation, not all of which is yet reflected in profits.

The reorganisations have taken place against a strong market background, and group profits have shown successive increases in each of the three latest half years.

In the most recent, the six months to Sept. 30, profits went ahead from £1.5 million to £1.8 million before tax.

Much of the gains, however, have come from reduced interest charges, and there is little real growth in trading profits or turnover.

The company itself accepts that it is not locked into growth areas, and is looking to input from partners to point the sales graph in the right direction.

Such partners have yet, however, to be located. Volox can offer manufacturing capability but is looking for products. Most companies would sooner have a product looking for a factory.

Meanwhile, profits should edge steadily upwards and ought to hit £3.5 million or even a little more in the current year, leaving the shares at 120p selling on a prospective price-earnings ratio of about eight.

That fairly states the shares' investment merits, but misses the point that Volox is possible being squeezed up in anticipation of a bid. Hold on.

Bid hopes prop J. H. Fenner

WHEN A company pitches itself onto the recovery trail in dramatic style it is often

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Continued from Page 17

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are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before obligations.

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Sport... ON 3 PAGES

BORDER SEEMS CERTAIN TO TAKE OVER

By ALAN SHIELL in Brisbane

ALLAN BORDER, 29, the Queensland captain, seems certain to be chosen to lead Australia following the resignation of Kim Hughes. Border is already vice-captain of the side, he is a tough character, but with a sense of humour.

The team for the third Test against the West Indies, starting in Adelaide on Friday week, will be selected on Sunday and announced on Monday. The captain and vice-captain will be voted into office once the Australian Board's 14 delegates know the composition of the side.

The alternative to Border is David Hookes, also 29, and captain of South Australia—if he appears in the squad. He was not selected for the first two Tests.

Border's employees, Castlemaine, brewers by the way, yesterday said they would sponsor the Australians' tour of England next year and have named a minimum figure of £100,000.

Wish him well!

Following Hughes' emotional breakdown as he tried to read out his resignation at a Press conference, Fred Bennett, chairman of the Australian Board, prepared a statement thanking Hughes for his services and making it clear that the Board expected him to continue in Test cricket.

The statement said: "Kim Hughes has been a great asset to the Australian cricket team. He has been a great leader and a great player. We wish him well in his future endeavours."

Haynes-Lawson row

A HEATED exchange between Australian fast bowler Geoff Lawson and West Indies opening batsman Desmond Haynes marred the finish of the second Test in Brisbane yesterday, writes Alan Shiell.

Following the West Indies eight-wicket victory, Geoff Lawson described the second Test as "a very stupid scene" and said he was "disgusted" by it. "If it happens again, someone will be catching a plane home," he added.

Lawson and Haynes exchanged words throughout the 24 minutes Haynes batted in the West Indies second innings. And, when Haynes edged the second ball of Lawson's fifth over on to his stumps, he stopped on his way to the dressing room, turned round and invited Lawson to Lawson with what is euphemistically known as the two-finger salute.

"Lloyd said he was 'very disappointed' in the players," said "I don't think Test cricket would be so short of this sort of thing," he said. "It was bad sportsmanship by both parties. We have always had very good camaraderie with Australian teams."

During Australia's second innings, Lawson was involved in two controversial incidents when he rode on his stumps twice and was not given out by umpire Dick Trench.



Allan Border

Second Test—2nd Day

N. ZEALAND WREST INITIATIVE

NEW ZEALAND

snatched three wickets for six runs in the last three overs to wrest the initiative from Pakistan on the second day in Hyderabad

After cruising along on the foundation of a third-wicket century stand between Omar Miandad and Qasim Omar, Pakistan slipped from 153 for two to 139 for five at the close in reply to New Zealand's first innings total of 267.

Panic appeared to set in as Qasim, nightwatchman Anil Dalpat and captain Zaheer Abbas all succumbed to the wiles of Stephen Bock and John Bracewell.

Left-arm spinner Bock took three for 57 of 21.5 overs, but was back to his best, still there at the close of play.

New Zealand, who resumed on 238 for seven, could muster only 28 more for the last three wickets and were all out half an hour before lunch.

NEW ZEALAND—first innings

J. G. Wright, c. Dalpat, 13

B. A. Edgar, c. Bock, 11

D. R. L. Smith, c. Bock, 10

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Golf Roundabout By MICHAEL WILLIAMS

Day of the twitch is over for Langer

PERHAPS the most remarkable fact to emerge from the Philips Performance Statistics, which are monitored each week on the PGA European tour, is that Bernhard Langer, who once had the reputation of being a gibbering wreck on the greens, is now the best putter.

His average of 28.84, better than seven single putts per round, gives an apparent lie to the widely held belief that so far as the twitch is concerned—'Once you've had it you've got it'—is wrong.

By perseverance and expert help, notably by frequently using his left hand below his right, Langer emerged from the long, dark tunnel that at one time threatened his whole golfing career.

Normally, the twitch is a 'disease' which strikes in middle age, Langer, still only 27, did therefore have comparative youth on his side, though that is not necessarily a guarantee of survival.

Philip Jones, once rated as the best South African prospect since Gary Player, was stricken very early in life and totally destroyed.

Best chippers Langer's putting average is nevertheless only half his story and I doubt that he will putter may not be the best at all but instead the best chipper.

For instance, Langer finished as low as 41st in the number of greens in regulation in 1983, while Bill Longmuir, second, with a putting average of 29.54, was 54th with his approach shots.

Langer's ability, as with Tom Watson in the United States, is that if he misses a green he is as a naturally attacking player and still gets down in two more. At bunker play he lies 11th in the chart.

Understandably, the most accurate players from tee to green are not the most successful putters because their putts are longer. Langer's average of 28.84 is a better average than anyone (78 per cent) had a putting average of 28.84, which placed him 42nd.

On the other hand only one of the 14 most accurate drivers, David Frost, of South Africa, finished in the top 10 in the Order of Merit.

In the final analysis, driving, iron play, recovery shots and putting are only part of the whole golfer and Langer's stroke average of 28.84 is a testament to his consistency on courses, averaging a

Longest drivers

What these annual statistics do tend to prove is that length from the tee is more important than accuracy.

Sandy Lyle (275 yards), Langer (270), David Frost (271) and Sam Torrance (271) were all among the year's six longest drivers. They were also the four longest hitters in the world, with Lyle's longest shot carried forward. The 18th was the only hole won outright.

On the previous day under the same format, the first hole was won by Langer, who hit a 280-yard shot to win the hole. Langer and Palmer won no money at all in the two days.

NICKLAUS PUTT EARNS £192,000

Jack Nicklaus holed an eight-foot putt, which earned him a £192,000 prize in the 1984 Skins Game, a four-man tournament in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Nicklaus, Tom Watson, Gary Player and Arnold Palmer went round in a four-ball, competing for prize money at each hole from 10 to 18th, and if no hole was won outright, the money was carried forward. The 18th was the only hole won outright.

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SLUMAN'S DILEMMA

By A Special Correspondent TEDDY WEBBER of Zimbabwe, Jeffrey Sluman led a high standard of performance in the European tour qualifying school at La Manga, Spain, yesterday.

He tied for the lead on 10 under par, but was unable to secure a stroke clear of Sweden's Mats Lanner.

"The scoring is extremely good," said local professional Jeffrey Sluman, "but the decision is that every one of the 30 players who gets a card to the next round will have to be under par at the end of the sixth round marathon."

Sluman, 27 from New York, is now in an excellent position to get a low number card which will earn him playing rights in almost every tournament next season.

But he might not take them up because he is also attempting to get his American player's card in Palm Springs next month. "I would like to get both of them," he said, "but I am not sure I can do it."

Sluman's dilemma is a common one for many young players. He is a talented player, but he is also a professional. He is a professional, but he is also a player. He is a player, but he is also a professional.

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Schools' Tennis

GATESHEAD GRAB TWO FINE WINS

By JOHN PARSONS

GATESHEAD, hardly the focal point of British tennis, scored an impressive double in the Midland Bank/Lawn Tennis Association Schools' Championship when the survivors from 14,000 children in 2,825 teams met for the finals at Telford yesterday.

Hookerage. Comprehensive, who have no courts of their own, but holes drilled in the playground to put up three nets, retained the boys' 15-and-under final 4-2 in a thrilling final against Hest of England, Balsall Common.

By the time of the decisive doubles, Whickham School, Gateshead, who had dropped out of the boys' 15-and-under final, beat St. Joseph's, Lincoln, in the 15-and-under girls' final.

Whichham made a remarkable comeback to beat the final, and St. Joseph's, Lincoln, in the 15-and-under girls' final.

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Rugby Union

North bring back Steve Smith

By JOHN MASON

STEVE SMITH, budding author, occasional radio commentator and in demand as an after-dinner speaker, will sample Australian freshly minted expertise at first hand after all. Plans to watch the

Overtones of the forthcoming Scotland match can be detected in the team selection.

Tom Linton, the massive hooker, who scores trees, was probably due a match of his high turns out again as it is required likely he will not be required.

Instead, Smith, 33, a former England captain and scrum-half, is required to lead the Northern Division in place of Nigel Melville, who is unfit, at Blundell, the last of the tour games in England. Smith, though disappointed for Melville, is flattered.

Melville, injured last Wednesday at Oxford, withdrew yesterday after being advised by Don Gatherer, England's physiotherapist, not to take a chance. Fibres around ligaments in Melville's right knee have been stretched, but the injury is not thought to be serious.

As there are stress doubts, too, about two other Northern scrum-halves—Gary Williams (Oxford) and Henryk Jurek (Oxford)—Smith was summoned in the dual capacity as half-back and captain. As his output compares with that of Alan Jones, Australia's coach, Smith will not lack for a word.

"They never let that final nail in my coffin," said Smith yesterday. "They really ought to wait it down. This has come right out of the blue for me. I capitulated in September, but dropped out of the squad through pressure of work."

Form check "But I've enjoyed playing for Sale. I've enjoyed it. I've only five minutes away from where I live. I thought there was something in the wind when the Northern selection was made. I was checked at Halifax on Saturday."

Steve Williams, one of five of Scotland's touring team in Wales, will lead the Australians tomorrow and he has big Bill Campbell as his partner at lock.

JO DURIE GOES THROUGH Britain's Jo Durie produced some of the best tennis she has played in the last 12 months, as the second round of the Australian Open Lawn Tennis Championship in Melbourne yesterday.

Miss Durie, of the United States, 6-5, 7-6, 6-0, after mastering a swirling wind on the centre court.

The British No. 1 ranked 20th in the world will now meet Pascale Paradis, of France, who is coached by Virginia Wade, in the second round.

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